

The Sentinel

Human Rights Action :: Humanitarian Response :: Health :: Holistic Development :: Sustainable Resilience

21 March 2015

This weekly digest is intended to aggregate and distill key content from a broad spectrum of practice domains and organization types including key agencies/IGOs, NGOs, governments, academic and research institutions, consortiums and collaborations, foundations, and commercial organizations. We also monitor a spectrum of peer-reviewed journals and general media channels. The Sentinel's geographic scope is global/regional but selected country-level content is included. We recognize that this spectrum/scope yields an indicative and not an exhaustive product.

The Sentinel is a service of the Center for Governance, Evidence, Ethics, Policy & Practice (GE2P2), which is solely responsible for its content. Comments and suggestions should be directed to:

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The Sentinel is also available as a pdf document linked from this page:

<http://ge2p2-center.net/>

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:: Journal Watch - Key articles and abstracts from 100+ peer-reviewed journals

:: Ebola/EVD Watch

:: Week in Review

A highly selective capture of strategic developments, research, commentary, analysis and announcements spanning Human Rights Action, Humanitarian Response, Health, Education, Holistic Development, Sustainable Resilience. Achieving a balance across these broad themes is a challenge and we appreciate your observations and ideas in this regard. This is not intended to be a "news and events" digest.

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Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

A/CONF.224/CRP.1

18 March 2015 :: 25 pages

Pdf: [http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.pdf](http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai_Framework_for_Disaster_Risk_Reduction_2015-2030.pdf)

[from Contents]

Priorities for action:

Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk

Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

Press Release

[World Conference adopts new international framework for disaster risk reduction after marathon negotiations](#)

18 March 2015, SENDAI – Representatives from 187 UN member States today adopted the first major agreement of the Post-2015 development agenda, a far reaching new framework for disaster risk reduction with seven targets and four priorities for action.

Conference President, Ms. Eriko Yamatani, Minister of State for Disaster Management, announced agreement on the text, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 – the new international framework for disaster risk reduction, following a marathon final round of negotiations which went on for over 30 hours.

Margareta Wahlström, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Head of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, said: "The adoption of this new framework for disaster risk reduction opens a major new chapter in sustainable development as it outlines clear targets and priorities for action which will lead to a substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health.

"Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction over the next 15 years will require strong commitment and political leadership and will be vital to the achievement of future agreements on sustainable development goals and climate later this year. As the UN Secretary-General said here on the opening day, sustainability starts in Sendai."

The framework outlines seven global targets to be achieved over the next 15 years:

- :: a substantial reduction in global disaster mortality;
- :: a substantial reduction in numbers of affected people;
- :: a reduction in economic losses in relation to global GDP;
- :: substantial reduction in disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, including health and education facilities;
- :: an increase in the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;
- :: enhanced international cooperation; and
- :: increased access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments.

...Conference Main Committee Co-Chair, Ambassador Päivi Kairamo from Finland, said: "Delegates have taken into account the experience gained through implementation of the current Hyogo Framework for Action. We have agreed on four priorities for action focussed on a better understanding of risk, strengthened disaster risk governance and more investment.

"A final priority calls for more effective disaster preparedness and embedding the 'build back

better' principle into recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction. These will be the four points of the DRR compass for the next 15 years."

...The World Conference was attended by over 6,500 participants including 2,800 government representatives from 187 governments. The Public Forum had 143,000 visitors over the five days of the conference making it one of the largest UN gatherings ever held in Japan.

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WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 21 March 2015]

<https://www.wmo.int/media/?q=news>

World Meteorological Day 23 March 2015: Climate Knowledge for Climate Action

20 March 2015

Climate Knowledge for Climate Action is the theme of World Meteorological Day on 23 March, highlighting both recent advances in climate science and the need for decisive measures to limit climate change.

Ceremonies and events around the world will showcase the contribution of National Meteorological Services to safety, well-being and sustainable development.

Over the last twelve months, thousands of lives have been saved around the world by improved weather forecasting, early-warning systems and disaster readiness. The economic benefits of climate services such as seasonal outlooks have been worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

USAID, NOAA, AND WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCE NEW WEATHER-READY NATIONS INITIATIVE

16 March 2015

SENDAI, JAPAN – This weekend, at the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction the U.S. Agency for International Development, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the World Meteorological Organization announced the creation of Weather-Ready Nations, a new program to improve the understanding of high impact weather, water, and climate events.

The devastating effects of extreme events such as cyclones, floods, and tsunamis can be greatly reduced through improved communication of expected impacts and risk, better delivery of warning information to communities under a threat, and clearer actions that individuals, businesses, and communities can take to be more resilient. Even in places where the crucial step of establishing early warning systems has been completed, advanced warnings are only beneficial if they lead to a public response that moves people out of harm's way. The basic need is for more actionable information to reduce the number of weather, water, and climate related fatalities and improve the economic value of weather, water, and climate information.

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FAO: THE IMPACT OF NATURAL HAZARDS AND DISASTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY – A CALL FOR ACTION TO BUILD RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS

March 2015

Prepared for the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan,
March 2015 :: 16 pages

www.fao.org/emergencies/how-we-work/resilience/en/

Key Findings:

This brochure presents the preliminary findings of an FAO study on the impact of natural hazards and disasters on the agriculture sector and sub-sectors¹ in developing countries.

The core findings of the study are:

:: The agriculture sector – including crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry – absorbs approximately 22 percent of the economic impact caused by medium and large scale natural hazards and disasters in developing countries;

:: The high impact of natural hazards and disasters on agriculture calls for enhanced mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience building within the agricultural sectors;

:: There are major data gaps on the impact of natural hazards and disasters on the agriculture sectors in developing countries. This sector-specific data must be systematically collected and included in national and international disaster loss databases to better inform appropriate risk reduction policies and investments for and within the sector;

:: Humanitarian aid and official development assistance to the agriculture sector is small when compared with the economic impact and needs in the sector. More investment is needed in DRR to build resilient livelihoods and food production systems;

:: The agriculture sectors need to be mobilized as proactive implementation partners for the delivery of the post-2015 framework on DRR so as to enhance local action and build resilience

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EU: [Resilience Compendium: Saving lives and livelihoods](#)

27 examples of existing best practices from around the world

European Union

March 2015 :: 116 pages

Introduction

In response to an increasingly critical need to protect lives and improve the livelihoods of vulnerable populations to rapidly changing risk environments, the European Union (EU) is committed to build resilience to stresses and shocks as a pre-requisite for reduced humanitarian needs, poverty reduction and sustainable development.

Adopting a resilience approach challenges existing ways of working and organisational systems. Although resilience concepts and policies are increasingly accepted and applied by a multitude of actors and stakeholders, uncertainty remains regarding implementation modalities in different contexts and how operating practices could be optimised to attain durable objectives. Aiming to identify good practice, to foster organisational learning and to reach a better understanding of how a resilience approach can lead to more effective assistance and transformational change for the most vulnerable, the EU has collected a number of examples of existing best practice.

This compendium illustrates how the resilience approach is being translated into reality by the EU, by governments, other donors, agencies, civil society organisations (CSOs) and vulnerable communities. Projects and programmes are presented from a variety of sectors, at different levels, with differing partners and a large spectrum of different contexts. Each demonstrates that successful and cost effective methods and approaches do exist, or can be developed, to address vulnerability and build resilience. They serve as a stimulus for further understanding and more widespread application of resilience-based action.

This compendium of good practice does not, and cannot, definitively explain how resilience can be applied to every imaginable context. It does, however, give a number of examples to show that systematic consideration of resilience options, early and sustained co-operation between different actors and, most importantly, putting people first, leads to more effective development and humanitarian support. Our assistance must be driven by what works best for vulnerable people in different contexts and our approaches and mechanisms should adapt accordingly. The compendium serves as a practical introduction to resilience good practice, providing contact details for further information and advice. As it is designed to be a living document, it will grow and develop over time, as experience

The EU is committed to building resilience to natural disasters. Increased resilience is a pre-requisite for reduced humanitarian needs, poverty alleviation and sustainable development. The European Commission has released a new publication showcasing examples of successful resilience projects.

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The UN World Water Development Report 2015 -- Water for a Sustainable World

UNESCO – WWAP (United Nations World Water Assessment Programme)

March 2015 :: 139 pages

ISBN 978-92-3-100071-3 ePub ISBN 978-92-3-100099-7 PDF format

[Condensed from overview content]

The WWDR 2015 demonstrates how water resources and services are essential to achieving global sustainability. Taking account of economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability, the report's forward-looking narrative describes how major challenges and change factors in the modern world will affect – and can be affected by – water resources, services and related benefits. The report provides a comprehensive overview of major and emerging trends from around the world, with examples of how some of the trend-related challenges have been addressed, their implications for policy-makers, and further actions that can be taken by stakeholders and the international community.

Water resources, and the range of services they provide, underpin economic growth, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. From food and energy security to human and environmental health, water has been shown to contribute to improvements in social well-being, affecting the livelihoods of billions. Progress towards the achievement of most sustainable development goals requires significant improvement of water management across the globe.

This latest edition of the WWDR clearly demonstrates how water is critical to nearly every aspect of sustainable development, and how a dedicated SDG for water would create social, economic, financial and other benefits that would extend to poverty alleviation, health, education, food and energy production, and the environment. **UN OHCHR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true>

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Learning from historical tragedies is key to strengthen the global fight against racism International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - Saturday 21 March 2015

GENEVA (20 March 2015) – Speaking ahead of the International Day for the Elimination of

Racial Discrimination, three United Nations experts on racism have called on Governments around the world to preserve the historical memory of past atrocity crimes to make more effective the global fight against racism.

The Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, Mutuma Ruteere; the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, Mireille Fanon Mendes-France; and the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, José Francisco Cali Tzay, said that breaking the silence on past human rights tragedies can only be achieved through political will and education.

"This year the International Day for the elimination of racial discrimination has a particular resonance as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and commence the International Decade for People of African descent (2015-2024).

Striving for a world free of racism and racial discrimination while remembering historical tragedies and inhumane actions, related to racial or ethnic hierarchizing and discrimination, which have affected global history and caused untold suffering are inseparable parts of the fight against racism that all actors must undertake. We continue to be confronted with evidence that we are still some way from realizing the goal of universal non-discrimination, inter-ethnic harmony and unbiased justice that so many have worked to achieve.

The complex linkages between past and contemporary forms of racism must indeed be considered to prevent racial discrimination, xenophobia, afrophobia and related intolerance and banish racism in our societies. In this respect, political will and education is key in breaking the silence on past human rights tragedies.

Often history books are silent about past atrocities committed in the name of race and ethnicity, falsify or distort historic facts, spread racial prejudice, and elude the history, cultures, traditions and positive contributions of those exposed to racism and discrimination, including people of African descent, minorities, migrants, indigenous peoples and other groups.

As we commemorate this important milestone for the ICERD, we can look back and see some great successes in the fight against racism; the most significant has been the end of Apartheid in South Africa. But racism and discrimination is present today in our modern societies across the globe and in many forms. Only by recognising and learning from history can we make past successes a contemporary reality.

We call upon States, and all relevant actors to adopt and implement measures to preserve historical memory of past atrocity crimes, to promote an accurate reflection of historical facts relating to past atrocities in text books and other educational material; to implement awareness-raising initiatives and ensure trainings for teachers on racial discrimination; prescribe unbiased schoolbooks that include the positive contribution of the victims of racial discrimination, while promoting more tolerance and respect for diversity.

We urge States to fully implement the ICERD as well as the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and the Programme of Activities for the implementation of the International Decade

for People of African Descent: Recognition, Justice and Development which constitute key instruments in the global fight against racism including past atrocities.”

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Youth Savings Patterns and Performance in Colombia, Ghana, Kenya, and Nepal

Center for Social Development (CSD) - Washington University

CSD Publication 15-01 YouthSave Research Report - Revised February 18, 2015 :: 223 pages

Lissa Johnson, YungSoo Lee, David Ansong, Margaret Sherraden, Gina Chowa, Fred Ssewamala,

Li Zou, Michael Sherraden - Center for Social Development

Moses Njenga, Joseph Kieyah KIPPRA, Kenya

Isaac Osei-Akoto ISSER, Ghana

Sharad Sharma, Jyoti Manandhar New ERA, Nepal

Catherine Rodriguez, Federico Merchán, Juan Saavedra Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

Ten Key Findings

The following ten key findings summarize highlights and may signal to the reader topics that merit closer attention:

1. Youth will open savings accounts if financial institutions make safe and affordable accounts available. Almost 100,000 youth across four countries opened accounts between the years of 2012 and 2014, of which approximately 70,000 are included in the research study.

2. Youth will save in the accounts as evidenced by the \$1.8 million saved across the four countries (comparability based on 2011 purchasing power parity conversion rates).

3. As measured by average monthly net savings, younger youth (i.e., youth aged younger than 13 years) save more than older youth, in part because younger youth withdraw less than older youth. This result highlights the importance of starting to save early in life.

4. Female youth save as much and sometimes more than male youth. This finding and the lower female account uptake rate of 41% in Nepal and Kenya suggests that access to financial institutions may be a bigger gender barrier than saving itself.

5. Direct outreach from financial institutions to locations where youth congregate (e.g., schools, youth clubs) facilitates overall account uptake. Direct outreach at low-income schools and girls' schools facilitates low-income (48%) and female youth (43%) opening accounts. Additional efforts are required to reach out-of-school youth.

6. About 39% of youth were actively using their account during the last six months of the study, which suggests the importance of focusing on ways to increase deposit activity. Deposit frequency is highest in Colombia where monthly deposits are part of a programmed savings goal. Youth receiving cash incentives in Nepal saved significantly more than other Nepalese account holders. These findings indicate possible directions for encouraging deposits.

7. Financial institution policies influence the number of accounts opened. In Nepal, where the age of majority is 16, 42% of the account holders own and operate their accounts. In Kenya, flexibility in banking policies allowed “trusted adults” to be cosignatories on minors' accounts, a policy already allowed in Ghana. In these two countries, nonrelatives are cosignatory on 56% and 47% of accounts, respectively. In Ghana, the Central Bank approved use of custodial accounts rather than trust accounts, which allows minors greater control of their account. Greater flexibility in banking policies may facilitate greater youth financial participation.

8. When parents are the cosignatory, youth save significantly more. The majority of the youth (84%) indicated that savings would likely come from family. Engaging the parent in the savings process is important to help youth save and accumulate assets.

9. Account restrictions affect account uptake and savings performance. Stringent withdrawal restrictions hindered uptake in Colombia but facilitated stable savings in Ghana. No withdrawal restrictions or fees enabled use of savings accounts more like transaction accounts for account holders of majority age in Nepal.

10. Products and product features should be clearly defined and tailored to the development stage of the youth. A lifelong savings account accompanied by other products as the youth reaches employment age may satisfy both the need to save and the need to manage expenditures.

Press Release

[YouthSave Report Offers New Insights into How and Why Young People in Developing Countries Save Money](#)

Study is the Result of Five-Year Project Involving 117,000 Youth in Four Countries

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 16, 2015) — A groundbreaking project examining the attitudes and practices of young people in developing economies toward saving money has led to new findings that both confirm and challenge assumptions about youth saving at formal financial institutions.

The study shows, for example, that if there are equal opportunities to do so, girls will save as much money or more in formal financial institutions than boys. The study, which focused on youth aged 12-18, demonstrates that, under the right conditions, younger youth (those below the age of 13) will save more than older youth. It also finds that parental involvement in supporting saving by their children is an important factor in determining who saves money, how much, and how often.

The study was carried out by YouthSave, an international development consortium led by Save the Children in partnership with the Center for Social Development (CSD), New America, the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) and The MasterCard Foundation, a founding partner of the YouthSave consortium.

The report released today, [Youth Savings Patterns and Performance in Colombia, Ghana, Kenya, and Nepal](#), outlines findings from a study of the largest known dataset on how teens in developing countries save money. Under this project, more than 117,000 youth in the four countries opened savings accounts. Of these young people, almost 70,000 agreed to take part in the research study; and about 48 percent of them were youth estimated to be living at or below \$2.50 per day...

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EBOLA/EVD [to 21 March 2015]

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC); "Threat to international peace and security" (UN Security Council)

:: UN Mission Situation Reports: 16-20 March 2015 **19 March 2015**

Excerpt

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 24,666 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,179 reported deaths.

3. WHO reported a total of 150 new confirmed EVD cases in the week to 15 March, compared with 116 in the previous week. There were 95 new confirmed cases reported in Guinea: the highest weekly total for the country in 2015. Sierra Leone reported 55 new confirmed cases over the same period: the country's lowest weekly total since late June 2014. Liberia reported no new confirmed cases for the third consecutive week. A total of 12 districts in Guinea and Sierra Leone reported a confirmed case in the week to 15 March, all of which lie in a geographically contiguous arc in and around Conakry to the north and Freetown to the south.

4. In Guinea, from a total of 41 reported EVD deaths in the week to 15 March, over half were identified post-mortem in the community. In the week to 8 March, only 28% of confirmed cases arose from registered contacts and there were a reported 18 unsafe burials. Taken together, these indicators suggest that the outbreak in Guinea is still being driven by unknown chains of transmission.

5. In Sierra Leone, in the week to 8 March over two-thirds of confirmed cases came from registered contacts and in the week to 15 March, only 6 of 62 total EVD-confirmed deaths were identified post-mortem in the community. There was 1 reported unsafe burial over the same period. However, there are still areas where most new cases arise from unknown chains of transmission. Kambia, a district north of Freetown on the border with the Guinean prefecture of Forécariah, reported 7 new cases in the week to 8 March, 5 of which came from post-mortem testing of people who had died in the community and who were not known to be contacts of a previous case.

6. 11 new health worker infections were reported in the week to 15 March: 4 in Guinea (3 in Conakry and 1 in Forécariah) and 7 in Sierra Leone (4 in Bombali, and 3 in Port Loko). This brings the total number of health worker infections reported across the three most-affected countries since the start of the outbreak to 852, with 492 deaths...

WHO: [Vaccination must be scaled up in Ebola-affected countries](#)

News release

20 March 2015 | GENEVA - A growing risk of outbreaks of measles, pertussis, and other vaccine-preventable diseases in countries affected by Ebola must be countered by urgent scaling up of routine immunization activities, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

"We are calling for the intensification of routine immunization services in all areas, and for mass measles vaccination campaigns in areas that are free of Ebola transmission," says Dr Jean-Marie Okwo-Bele, Director of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals at WHO...

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:: Agency/Government/IGO Watch

We will monitor a growing number of relevant agency, government and IGO organizations for key media releases, announcements, research, and initiatives. Generally, we will focus on regional or global level content recognizing limitation of space, meaning country-specific coverage is limited. Please suggest additional organizations to monitor.

United Nations System Organizational Chart

:: 8.5" x 11" / 216 x 279 mm :: 11" x 17" / 279 x 432 mm

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.un.org/en/unpress/>

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

20 March 2015

ENV/DEV/1497-OBV/1442

[International Forest Day: Forests Essential for Meeting People's Needs and Tackling Climate Change](#)

The sustainable management and conservation of forests must be considered in the design and implementation of the new sustainable development goals and the new climate change agreement to be adopted this December in Paris, according to United Nations officials and forest experts in messages for the International Day of Forests, observed on 21 March.

20 March 2015

SG/SM/16605-OBV/1441

[Commemorating Transatlantic Slave Trade Victims, Secretary-General Calls for Ending Modern Slavery, Announces Unveiling of Permanent Memorial](#)

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon's message for the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, observed on 25 March.

19 March 2015

SG/SM/16601-DC/3540

[Fresh Approaches, Mechanisms to Consider Civil Society's Role in Disarmament Critical to Create Safer World, Secretary-General Tells Geneva Forum](#)

19 March 2015

SG/SM/16600-OBV/1437

[Secretary-General, in Message for International Happiness Day, Urges Efforts to Achieve Universal Peace, Prosperity, Human Rights](#)

17 March 2015

SG/SM/16598-ENV/DEV/1495-OBV/1436

[Secretary-General, on World Water Day, Says Access to Potable Water, Proper Sanitation Essential for Global Prosperity, Health](#)

16 March 2015

SG/SM/16597-ENV/DEV/1494-OBV/1435

[Secretary-General, on International Day of Forests, Stresses Investment, Smart Policies Essential for Building Sustainable, Climate-Resilient Future](#)

16 March 2015

SG/SM/16593-IHA/1358

[Reducing Disaster Risks Is 'Everybody's Business', Secretary-General Says at Symposium on Great East Japan Earthquake, Calling for 'All Hands on Deck'](#)

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true>

[Learning from historical tragedies is key to strengthen the global fight against racism](#)

[International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - Saturday 21 March 2015](#)

3/20/2015

[see more extensive treatment in Week in Review above]

[ISIL may have committed war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide: UN report](#)

3/19/2015

[Disaster risk reduction: "A new global strategy must cover indigenous persons with disabilities" – UN experts](#)

3/17/2015

["Dementia, a public health priority and a human rights concern" – UN expert on older people](#)

3/17/2015

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 21 March 2015]

<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/virtual-library/press-release-archive/>

No new digest content identified.

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>

No new digest content identified.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 21 March 2015]

[http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-](http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=&comid=4a0950336&cid=49aea93a7d&scid=49aea93a40)

[bin/texis/vtx/search?page=&comid=4a0950336&cid=49aea93a7d&scid=49aea93a40](http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=&comid=4a0950336&cid=49aea93a7d&scid=49aea93a40)

20 March 2015

[Over 120,000 displaced as conflict continues in southern Philippines](#)

17 March 2015

[UNHCR begins relocation of 50,000 South Sudan refugees in Ethiopia before the rains come](#)

UNOCHA [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unocha.org/media-resources/press-releases>

21 Mar 2015

[Vanuatu: Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator for Vanuatu, Osnat Lubrani](#)

[Japan: Kizuna \(bonding\) in Fukushima](#)

20 Mar 2015

[Chad: Revue de Presse Humanitaire au Tchad - Du 21 février au 20 mars 2015](#)

19 Mar 2015

[Nigeria: UN Emergency Fund releases US\\$28 million for aid operations in Nigeria and countries affected by the crisis](#)

[Nigeria: IASC Emergency Directors call for urgent action to assist people affected by conflict in Nigeria and Ukraine following week-long visit](#)

[Somalia: Somalia Humanitarian Key Messages February 2015 \[EN/SO\]](#)

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unisdr.org/archive>

[World Conference adopts new international framework for disaster risk reduction after marathon negotiations](#)

Representatives from 187 UN member States today adopted the first major agreement of the Post-2015 development agenda, a far reaching new framework for disaster risk reduction with seven targets and four priorities for action.

18 Mar 2015

[see more extensive treatment in Week in Review above]

[New study shows little prospect of reducing economic losses from disasters](#)

Preliminary results of a catastrophe modelling study presented today at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction show little prospect of reducing economic losses from present levels of \$240 billion per year.

18 Mar 2015

[Risk award to support slum dwellers in Pune](#)

All the key drivers of risk are present in the Indian city of Pune where 25,000 people living in ten slums will benefit from a project which today won the 2015 Risk Award and a grant of €100,000 at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk

16 Mar 2015

UNICEF [to 21 March 2015]

http://www.unicef.org/media/media_78364.html

[Nine year old girl soldier freed in large release of child soldiers in South Sudan](#)

JUBA/NAIROBI/NEW YORK, 21 March, 2015 – Up to 250 child soldiers including four girls, one as young as nine, were released today in South Sudan from an armed group, the Cobra Faction. Another 400 are being released over the next two days.

[UNICEF Yemen statement on yesterday's killings in Sana'a](#)

SANAA, Yemen, 21 March 2015 - "UNICEF strongly condemns yesterday's attacks on mosques in Sana'a in which at least 13 children were killed and 19 were injured. The attacks claimed the lives of at least 137 people and injured more than 300.

[UNICEF welcomes new Sendai Framework securing children's role in shaping disaster risk reduction](#)

NEW YORK, 20 March 2015 – UNICEF welcomes the new Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction adopted at the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. The 2015-2030 framework recognizes the vital role children and youth have to play in reducing risk, strengthening community resilience and shaping legislation to better protect against disasters.

By the end of the 1990s, climate-change related disasters affected approximately 66 million children per year. In the coming decades, this number is projected to reach 200 million. UNICEF has engaged with the development of the Sendai Framework so that the growing exposure of children to disasters is effectively addressed over the coming 15 years.

"Children are especially vulnerable to disasters as they can be adversely affected in so many ways – through exposure to violence and disease, losing access to healthcare and safe water, or missing out on education," said Ted Chaiban, UNICEF Programme Director. "But children have also proven crucial to reducing risks posed to their communities. The Sendai Framework establishes children and youth as agents of change who must be given the opportunity to shape policies and programmes for risk reduction."...

[World Water Day: Nearly 750 million people still without adequate drinking water – UNICEF](#)

NEW YORK, 20 March 2015 – Access to drinking water has been one of the biggest successes of the Millennium Development Goals, UNICEF said ahead of World Water Day, but for 748 million people around the world, just obtaining this essential service remains a challenge.

[Urgent action needed to assist people affected by conflict in Nigeria and Ukraine - UNICEF and OCHA](#)

NEW YORK, 19 March 2015 – Addressing the media today after returning from a week-long mission to Nigeria and Ukraine, John Ging of OCHA and Afshan Khan of UNICEF, called on the international community to support efforts under way to assist civilians in both countries.

[UNICEF to send emergency supplies for cyclone-affected children and families in Tuvalu](#)

SUVA, 18 March 2015 – UNICEF is dispatching emergency life-saving supplies to communities in cyclone-affected Tuvalu. The archipelago nation comprised of nine islands with a population of about 11,000 people has declared a state of emergency, following tidal surges caused by Tropical Cyclone Pam.

[Measles prevention campaign underway in Vanuatu, amid fears of disease outbreak - UNICEF](#)

SUVA, 17 March 2015 – An emergency vaccination drive is under way in Vanuatu to protect children hit by Cyclone Pam, as fears grow of a serious measles outbreak.

[1 out of 5 Ebola infections hits a child](#)

DAKAR/GENEVA/NEW YORK, 17 March 2015 –Ebola has had a devastating impact on children, who make up about 20 per cent of infections in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. To protect them and their communities, it is critical to defeat this scourge, while working to restore basic services, UNICEF said in a report released today.

[UNICEF: Nearly 60,000 children in need of immediate assistance after Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu](#)

SUVA, 15 March 2015 – Tens of thousands of children are in urgent need of assistance in Vanuatu after tropical Cyclone Pam ripped through the island.

UN Women [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unwomen.org/>

"Change is coming. Change has to come"—Executive Director

Date : March 20, 2015

Congratulating UN Member States, civil society and the UN system for a dynamic and forward-looking CSW session, UN Women Executive Director in her closing speech underlined that the post-2015 development agenda has to put gender equality at the core of sustainable development. She reiterated that there are no shortcuts to realizing gender equality and the human rights of women and girls, and everyone must work to bring about transformation within their families, societies, economies, and political and public spaces.

Press statement: UN condemns public lynching and burning of mentally ill woman

Date : March 20, 2015

KABUL, 20 March 2015 – The United Nations condemns, in the strongest terms, the brutal killing and burning of a 27 year old mentally ill woman...

Intergenerational dialogue explores pathways to gender equality

Date : March 18, 2015

New York – With participants ranging in age from 10 to 79, UN Women hosted a full-day intergenerational dialogue on 13 March aimed at creating a space to connect up-and-coming gender equality activists with veterans to develop new strategies to achieve gender equality by 2030. One of UN Women's flagship events at the 59th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the dialogue brought together women and men, girls and boys of all ages, indigenous groups, private sector and media representatives, LGBTIQ groups, and civil society organizations from countries across the globe.

In Brazil, new law on femicide to offer greater protection

Date : March 16, 2015

Announced on national television on International Women's Day and hailed as a commitment to UN Women's new Step It Up campaign, on 9 March Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff signed a new law that criminalizes femicide, the gender-motivated killing of women, and sets tougher penalties for those responsible for such crimes. Noting that on average 15 women are murdered every day in Brazil simply for being women, she described the matter as "a gender issue".

UN Women Executive Director calls for gender equality in parliaments by 2030

Date : March 16, 2015

[As delivered] Thank you, Secretary-General for your remarks, and for the emphasis that you continue to put on partnership. UN Women regards the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) as one of its most prized partners. We would like to further improve our collaboration. I would also want us to engage further with Member States – who are the real decision-makers – and I encourage you to do so during the Commission on the Status of Women.

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues [to 21 March 2015]

<http://undesadspd.org/IndigenousPeoples.aspx>

No new digest content identified.

WHO & Regionals [to 21 March 2015]

:: **[WHO calls on the world to "Gear up to End TB"](#)**

19 March 2013-- As countries mark World Tuberculosis Day on March 24, WHO is calling for "global solidarity and action" to support a new 20-year strategy which aims to end the global tuberculosis epidemic. Recent years have seen tremendous progress in the fight against TB, with over 37 million lives saved, but much more needs to be done.

Read the news release on World Tuberculosis Day

:: **[Global Alert and Response \(GAR\): Disease Outbreak News \(DONs\)](#)**

- 20 March 2015 Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) – Saudi Arabia

- 17 March 2015 Typhoid fever – Uganda

:: The **[Weekly Epidemiological Record \(WER\) 20 March 2015](#)**, vol. 90, 12 (pp. 109–120) includes:

- Antigenic and genetic characteristics of zoonotic influenza viruses and development of candidate vaccine viruses for pandemic preparedness

:: **[WHO Highlights](#)**

[Cholera coalition urges stepped-up support of water for Haiti](#)

March 2015— On World Water Day 2015, the Regional Coalition for Water and Sanitation to Eliminate Cholera in Hispaniola is calling for stepped-up support from the international community to help Haiti and the Dominican Republic end the cholera epidemic on their shared island.

[Comment on the Interim report of the Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity](#)

March 2015 -- The Interim Report of the Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity is now open for comments from relevant stakeholders from March to June 2015.

[People's health at the centre of new global blueprint to reduce disaster risks](#)

March 2015 -- Ten years since adopting the Hyogo Framework for Action shortly after the Indian Ocean Tsunami, government representatives have gathered in Sendai to negotiate a new framework for global action to reduce the risks of disasters.

[Lassa fever](#)

March 2015 -- Lassa fever is an acute viral haemorrhagic illness that occurs in West Africa. It is difficult to distinguish from other viral haemorrhagic fevers such as Ebola virus disease, especially early in the course of the disease. Early supportive care with rehydration and symptomatic treatment improves survival. Read more in this updated fact sheet.

:: **[WHO Regional Offices](#)**

[WHO African Region AFRO](#)[Dr Marie Puruehnce, Presidential Adviser for Health in Congo pays a courtesy call on Dr Matshidiso Moeti](#)

19 March 2015

[WHO Region of the Americas PAHO](#)

:: [Cholera coalition urges stepped-up support of water for Haiti](#) (03/19/2015)

:: [PAHO/WHO initiative seeks to reduce maternal deaths from hemorrhage in the Americas](#)
(03/18/2015)

:: [PAHO/WHO urges food processors to reduce salt in children's foods and cease advertising salty products to children](#) (03/17/2015)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: [World Water Day 2015: Water and Sustainable Development](#)

Every year, 22 March is observed as World Water Day to appreciate this precious resource and to recommit ourselves in preserving and sustaining water for current and future generations.

To recognize the transition from Millennium Development (MDG) to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the theme for 2015 is: 'Water and Sustainable Development'.

[RD's message on World Water Day 2015](#)

:: [Scale up TB control initiatives to reach the missing one million cases](#)
20 March 2015

WHO European Region EURO

:: [Each day 1000 people fall sick with tuberculosis in the European Region](#) 17-03-2015

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: [WHO Regional Director reviews health situation in Iraq and sounds alarm on diminishing health response due to limited funding](#)

Baghdad, Iraq, 16 March, 2015 – In his visit to Iraq, Dr Ala Alwan, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean, has been reviewing the health needs of populations affected by the conflict and describes the situation as alarming with 5 million currently in need of health services. Of the US\$ 314.2 million required by the health sector, only US\$ 95.5 million has been received (30.4%), leaving a critical funding gap of US\$ 218.7 million. WHO urges the international donor community to act immediately to support the work of WHO and health partners in Iraq.

[Millions of Afghan children reached in national polio immunization drive](#)
18 March 2015

[Tobacco use declining but major intensification efforts needed in reduction and control efforts](#)
18 March 2015

[WHO recognizes H.H. Sheikh Al Qasimi for leadership in tobacco control](#)
18 March 2015

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: [WHO responds to health needs caused by Cyclone Pam](#) 15 March 2015

UNAIDS [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/>

[Gala to raise funds to stop new HIV infections among children](#)

19 March 2015

GENEVA, 19 March 2015—UNAIDS, in partnership with the hotel InterContinental Genève, Cartier and Etihad Airways, is holding its first fundraising gala, in Geneva, Switzerland. The event is part of UNAIDS' efforts to ensure that children everywhere are free from HIV and that mothers have access to antiretroviral medicines to ensure that they stay alive and well...

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unfpa.org/public/>

[Cyclone Pam cripples sexual and reproductive health services in Vanuatu](#)

PORT VILA, Vanuatu/SUVA, Fiji – Sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning and antenatal care, urgently need to be restored in Vanuatu following the massive destruction caused by Cyclone Pam....

20 March 2015

[Safe spaces offer crucial services to women displaced by Malawi's floods](#)

CHIKWAWA, Malawi – It was the second time in three months that Mary, 43, had to fight for her life. The first was in January, when torrential rainfall inundated much of southern Malawi, in what is likely to be one of...

20 March 2015

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter.html>

18 Mar 2015

[Economic growth alone not enough to face Africa's emerging challenges, UN Development Chief](#)

Africa has recorded impressive economic growth over the last decade, its ability to address emerging challenges will be strengthened by investing in citizens' health, education and participation in society, said the UN's development chief today in Abidjan, the capital of Cote d'Ivoire.

18 Mar 2015

[Helen Clark: Opening Address to the International Conference on the Emergence of Africa](#)

Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

17 Mar 2015

[UNDP announces '5-10-50' – new global programme in support of disaster resilience](#)

16 Mar 2015

[New technology to eliminate dangerous toxic waste in Liberian hospitals](#)

Monrovia - When the Ebola virus hit, Liberia's hospitals were overwhelmed and the healthcare system could not cope. Now the epidemic is in retreat, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is supporting the Government's efforts to rebuild healthcare systems, tackle problems that Ebola exposed and fix issues that predate the epidemic.

15 Mar 2015

[Helen Clark: Statement to the Ministerial Roundtable "Governing Disaster Risk: Overcoming Challenges"](#)

Sendai, Japan

15 Mar 2015

[UNDP and Tohoku University launch 'Global Centre for Disaster Statistics'](#)

Sendai, Japan - The UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) at Tohoku University today launched the Global Centre for Disaster Statistics.

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 21 March 2015]

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

[A million US dollar grant promotes energy for sustainable development](#)

20 Mar 2015 - A million US dollar grant has been launched by the UN to promote leadership and innovative practices in energy for sustainable development

According to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), 1.3 billion people don't have access to modern energy services.

The Director of the Division for Public Administration and Development there says the idea of the grant came from the World Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012.

Juwang Zhu told Derrick Mbatha that many governments felt that while encouraging progress had been made, best practices and lessons learned in promoting energy for sustainable development were not being disseminated.

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unep.org/newscentre/?doctypeID=1>

Selected Press Releases

[Ahead of World Water Day, UN Calls for Better Management of Water Resources](#)

The report stresses the urgent need to change the way we use and manage this water resources.

20/03/2015

[Vienna Convention Celebrates Three Decades of Successful Science-Based Global Action to Protect the Ozone Layer](#)

The ozone layer is healing itself and is expected to recover by the middle of this century.

20/03/2015

[Cyclone-hit Vanuatu Facing Severe Water and Food Shortages](#)

UNEP ready to support the disaster-stricken country.

20/03/2015

[World Conference Adopts New International Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction After Marathon Negotiations](#)

First major agreement of the Post-2015 development agenda reached at landmark UN Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

18/03/2015

[UNDP/UNEP Launch New Capacity Development Programme for Climate Change Negotiators from Least Developed Countries](#)

The UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) has jointly launched a new global support programme to assist Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in strategically engaging in intergovernmental climate change negotiation processes.

17/03/2015

[Achim Steiner and Heads of UN Agencies in Nairobi Sign Up for HeForShe Campaign](#)

Women and children are disproportionately affected by indoor emissions from inefficient cookstoves which cause nearly 2 million premature deaths every year.

17/03/2015

[Countries turn to Ecosystems to Reduce Risk Amid Concerns over More Disasters](#)

Strong commitments to ecosystem-based approaches for disaster risk reduction at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

16/03/2015

DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/news.html>

[Forests essential for meeting people's needs and tackling climate change](#)

20 March 2015, New York

The sustainable management and conservation of forests must be considered in the design and implementation of the new sustainable development goals and the new climate change agreement to be adopted this December in Paris, according to UN officials and forest experts in messages for the International Day of Forests, observed on 21 March.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/allpress.html?ref=fp>

20/03/2015 - [Statement of the UNODC Executive Director, Yuri Fedotov, on World Water Day](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 21 March 2015]

<http://unhabitat.org/media-centre/press-releases/>

[UN-Habitat and Red Cross To Partner on Post-Disaster Housing](#)

Sendai, 19 March 2015 – UN-Habitat and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that they will work together on promoting adequate shelter and settlements for all, with a focus on people affected by natural and man-made disasters.

The agreement, which was signed at the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction taking place this week in Sendai, Japan, outlines the commitment of the two international organisations to collaborate through linking humanitarian shelter with longer term housing and urban development in the aftermath of disasters. IFRC, whose expertise lies in providing emergency shelter and coordinating initial disaster response, will look to UN-Habitat to provide urban planners and shelter recovery specialists as part of its inter-agency shelter coordination teams...

[Sendai marks start of new framework on urban resilience towards New Urban Agenda](#)

Sendai, 18 March 2015- This week, the international community has been meeting in the city of Sendai, Japan, to discuss a new Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction and political declaration within the United Nations World Conference on...

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.fao.org/news/archive/news-by-date/2015/en/>

[Vanuatu: Early reports suggest vast majority of crops destroyed](#)

Strong winds, heavy rains and floods resulting from Tropical Cyclone Pam have caused extensive damage to agriculture throughout Vanuatu, including the main food and export crops, livestock, and fisheries infrastructure, FAO said today.

20-03-2015

[Carbon emissions from forests down by 25% between 2001-2015](#)

Total carbon emissions from forests decreased by more than 25 percent between 2001 and 2015, mainly due to a slowdown in global deforestation rates, according to new estimates published by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization today.

20-03-2015

[Digital certificates to boost controls over spread of plant pests and diseases](#)

e-Phyto is designed to eventually replace paper certificates entirely. Envisaged at its heart is a central hub, which will receive on a voluntary basis certificates from National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) in exporting countries and makes them available to the NPPOs of importing countries.

19-03-2015

[FAO boosts food security efforts in countries affected by Syria crisis](#)

FAO is scaling up its support to Jordan and other countries in the region affected by the humanitarian crisis in Syria that has entered its fifth year.

17-03-2015

[Agriculture bears major brunt of disaster impacts, new report says](#)

Nearly a quarter of damages wrought by natural disasters on the developing world are borne by agriculture according to initial results from a new FAO study released at the UN World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction.

17-03-2015

[Keeping plant pests and diseases at bay: experts focus on global measures](#)

The annual meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, the governing body of the International Plant Protection Convention, brings together senior plant health specialists from the 181 member countries. The purpose of the standards is to minimize the risks of plant pests circulating across borders and regions in the increasingly vast context of global trade.

16-03-2015

[Emirates' date palm oases recognized as agricultural heritage sites](#)

Two date palm oases in the United Arab Emirates have joined a growing number of ecosystems that are formally recognized by FAO for their importance as repositories of genetic resources, biodiversity and cultural heritage.
15-03-2015

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.ifad.org/media/press/index.htm>
No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.ilo.org/global/lang-en/index.htm>
No new digest content identified.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/pressrelease.aspx>
[Dr. Fang Liu of China Becomes First-Ever Woman Appointed Secretary General of ICAO](#)
Website unreachable...

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.imo.org/MediaCentre/Pages/Home.aspx>
[ShipArc 2015: Call for papers](#)
19/03/2015 IMO, WMU and PAME (Arctic Council) issue call for papers for International Conference on Safe and Sustainable Shipping in a Changing Arctic Environment (ShipArc 2015), 25-27 August 2015.

[Ship routing measures to protect Australia's Coral Sea agreed](#)
16/03/2015 Area to be avoided and two-way shipping routes agreed, to protect Australia's Coral Sea Commonwealth Marine Reserve.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 21 March 2015]
<https://www.wmo.int/media/?q=news>
[World Meteorological Day 23 March 2015: Climate Knowledge for Climate Action](#)
20 March 2015

Climate Knowledge for Climate Action is the theme of World Meteorological Day on 23 March, highlighting both recent advances in climate science and the need for decisive measures to limit climate change.

Ceremonies and events around the world will showcase the contribution of National Meteorological Services to safety, well-being and sustainable development.

Over the last twelve months, thousands of lives have been saved around the world by improved weather forecasting, early-warning systems and disaster readiness. The economic benefits of climate services such as seasonal outlooks have been worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

[Sendai: UN conference adopts new, people-centred disaster risk reduction strategy](#)

19 March 2015

Death, destruction and displacement wrought by natural disasters would be significantly reduced by 2030 under a new framework adopted by countries attending the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, in Sendai, Japan, where they also affirmed the “urgent and critical need” to anticipate, plan for and reduce such risk to more effectively protect people, communities and countries, and to build resilience.

Adopting the Sendai Declaration and [Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#) after days of discussions and a final 30-hour negotiating session, 187 UN Member States attending the [Conference](#) approved seven targets, four priorities and a set of guiding principles, underscoring that substantial reduction of disaster risk requires perseverance and persistence, “with a more explicit focus on people and their health and livelihoods, and regular follow up.”

[Severe Tropical Cyclone Pam](#)

17 March 2015

Severe Tropical Cyclone Pam, which caused devastation in Vanuatu, is one of the most powerful cyclones to make landfall. It was a Category 5 and was comparable in intensity (900hPa) to Typhoon Haiyan 890hPa), which hit the Philippines in November 2013. Winds were estimated to have reached 250 kilometers per hour with gusts of 320 km per hour. Its maximum speed was more than enough to lift an airplane when it made a direct hit on the capital Port Vila on 14 March 2015. It is extremely rare for such a severe tropical cyclone to make landfall in Vanuatu.

[EL NIÑO/LA NIÑA Update](#)

16 March 2015

Since late October 2014, sea surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific Ocean have remained at near-borderline to weak El Niño levels. However, many atmospheric features of El Niño have displayed only weak or short-lived responses to the warming. For example, the pattern of cloudiness and rainfall anomalies has not been well defined. Models and expert opinion suggest a continuation of warm-neutral to weak El Niño conditions through April and May of 2015.

Most models suggest tropical Pacific temperatures will exceed El Niño thresholds toward the middle of the year. However, many models currently show a substantial spread in their outlooks for tropical Pacific Ocean temperatures, consistent with the known period of lower skill in longer lead predictions made at this time of year. This spread indicates that a range of outcomes remain possible, from neutral to a substantial El Niño event. This spread will narrow in the coming months as skill levels increase. National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and other agencies will continue to monitor Pacific Ocean conditions for further El Niño developments, and will assess the most likely local impacts.

[USAID, NOAA, AND WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCE NEW WEATHER-READY NATIONS INITIATIVE](#)

16 March 2015

SENDAI, JAPAN – This weekend, at the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction the U.S. Agency for International Development, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the World Meteorological Organization announced the creation of Weather-Ready Nations, a new program to improve the understanding of high impact weather, water, and climate events.

The devastating effects of extreme events such as cyclones, floods, and tsunamis can be greatly reduced through improved communication of expected impacts and risk, better delivery of warning information to communities under a threat, and clearer actions that individuals, businesses, and communities can take to be more resilient. Even in places where the crucial step of establishing early warning systems has been completed, advanced warnings are only beneficial if they lead to a public response that moves people out of harm's way. The basic need is for more actionable information to reduce the number of weather, water, and climate related fatalities and improve the economic value of weather, water, and climate information.

[Multi-hazard early warning systems vital for managing growing risks](#)

15 March 2015

Sendai, 15 March 2015 – As climate change and demographic change boost the number of people exposed to floods, heatwaves and other hazards, improved early warning systems and greater coordination of disaster management activities will be needed to manage risks and protect lives and property, according to the World Meteorological Organization.

As a key contribution to the World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR), WMO has announced plans to support Governments and other stakeholders in developing effective multi-hazard early warning systems that provide a coordinated platform for managing multiple risks.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unido.org/en/news-centre/news.html>

[UNIDO Director General LI Yong - Statement on World Water Day](#)

VIENNA, 20 March 2015 - LI Yong, the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), issued the following statement today.

"Water is a key factor input into almost all industrial production processes. UNIDO supports its partners in the efficient and effective use of water resources and the adoption of resource-efficient cleaner production processes through the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and proactive public-private partnerships for water stewardship and water footprinting.

The underlying principle of UNIDO's work is that we support our partners in decoupling the use and consumption of resources from economic growth. This allows UNIDO to make a significant contribution to inclusive and sustainable development, not only of industry but also of communities, societies and businesses around the globe."

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 21 March 2015]

<http://media.unwto.org/news>

18 March 2015

[UNWTO strongly condemns attack in Tunisia](#)

UNWTO is deeply saddened and shocked by the attack in the Bardo Museum in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia. UNWTO conveys its heartfelt sympathy to the families of the victims who lost their lives or were injured, and expresses its solidarity to the people and the Government of Tunisia and to the governments of all nationals who were killed or injured.

ITU International Telecommunications Union [to 21 March 2015]

http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/index.aspx?lang=en#.VF8FYcl4WF8
[ITU and ETSI agree method to assess energy efficiency of mobile networks](#)

New standard applicable to live radio access networks

Geneva, 17 March 2015 – ITU and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) have agreed a new standard to measure the energy efficiency of mobile radio access networks (RANs), the wireless networks that connect end-user equipment to the core network.

The standard is the first to define energy-efficiency metrics and measurement methods for live RANs, providing a common reference to evaluate their performance. Its application will build uniformity in the methodologies employed by such evaluations, in parallel establishing a common basis for the interpretation of the results.

"Improving the energy efficiency of ICT has become central to all fields of technical standardization at ITU," said ITU Secretary-General Houlin Zhao. "We are moving towards a world that will host billions of connected devices, things and objects, making energy efficiency essential to the functionality and environmental sustainability of ICT networks."...

UNESCO [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/for-the-press/press-releases/>
20.03.15

[Tsunami alert exercise in the Caribbean](#)

19.03.15

[Urgent need to manage water more sustainably, says UN report](#)

16.03.15

[UNAMI, UNESCO stand behind Iraqi academia in fight against heritage destruction](#)

Baghdad, 15 March 2015 – "The United Nations family shares the great concern of Iraqi archaeologists and heritage experts for the country's unique patrimony", said Gyorgy Busztin, Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq (DSRSG), and Axel Plathe, Director of the UNESCO Office for Iraq, at a meeting today with Salah Flaifil A'Ayed, Dean of the Colleges of Art of the University of Baghdad and professors of its Faculty of Archaeology.

Endorsing the firm condemnation by the College of Arts of the criminal acts carried out by the terrorists destroying antiquities testifying to the Mesopotamian culture, Gyorgy Busztin and Axel Plathe agreed with Salah Flaifil A'Ayaed to support the campaign to protect Iraq's heritage that was launched through an event at the University of Baghdad last week.

"The United Nations are fully mobilized and stand ready to assist the Iraqi authorities in any possible way," said Georgy Buzstin...

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/>

[Telecoms Firms Lead WIPO International Patent Filings](#)

Three telecoms giants from China and the United States led international patent filing activity via WIPO in 2014, a fifth consecutive record-breaking year amid overall growth in the Organization's global intellectual property services.

Mar 19, 2015 [PR/2015/774](#)

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.cbd.int/press-releases/>

Press Releases/Statements

2015-03-20

[Statement of the CBD Executive Secretary, Braulio F. de Souza Dias, on the occasion of the International Day of Forests 2015, 21 March 2015](#)

More than 1.6 billion people worldwide depend on forests to meet their basic needs. The biodiversity of these vast biomes span tropical and temperate areas, and provide the foundation for ecosystem services that support poverty eradication, food security, medicines, energy and clean water. Yet, despite progress made, we still continue to lose forests at an alarming rate. In order to reverse this trend, we need to better value the wide range of benefits that forests provide for society at large.

This year, as we celebrate the International Day of Forests under the theme of "Forests and Climate Change," we need to also look at the crucial and direct contribution of forests and forest biodiversity to the mitigation and adaption to climate change. This is particularly important as we look ahead to the climate change conference taking place in Paris later this year under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

One specific action that can help is for countries to take into account the role of biodiversity in climate change strategies, among them forest ecosystem restoration, within national voluntary reporting. Ecosystem restoration offers the potential to achieve win-win climate and biodiversity goals, if appropriate measures are taken. Accordingly, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is encouraging Parties, through notification 2015-02-12,¹ to make use of existing tools, guidance and information related to biodiversity and climate change. Efforts to conserve and restore forest ecosystems can profoundly contribute to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as well as other internationally agreed goals, such as the four Global Objectives on Forests of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, including in particular the proposed Sustainable Development Goal 15, and such initiatives such as the Bonn Challenge of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration...

2015-03-19

[Message of the CBD Executive Secretary, Braulio F. de Souza Dias, on the occasion of the World Water Day, 22 March 2015 "Water and sustainable development"](#)

Water is one of our most precious natural resources. Ensuring a clean, healthy and sustainable water supply is now the highest of natural resources management issues. The most recent edition of the Global Risks report of the World Economic Forum¹ places global water crises as the top risk in terms of impact and among the top ten in terms of likelihood. Water is also tied to many of the other top ten risks.

The importance of water to sustainable development is well recognized. In order to function, all terrestrial ecosystems, including coastal areas, require water to be available and of sufficient quality.

However, ecosystems supported by biodiversity provide water-related services and are critical for sustaining water in order to meet human needs. For example, wetlands, forests and grasslands act as natural water infrastructure. Their conservation and sustainable management provide important tools for ensuring the availability of water, including during the extremes of droughts and floods, as well as helping maintain water quality. Better management of soil

health and soil biodiversity, as well as natural infrastructure in farming landscapes are also key for achieving water security, and also underpin food security and disaster risk reduction. If we make better use of this natural infrastructure, we will deliver improved and more sustainable water security, economic performance and increased resilience in the face of climate change.

This year's World Water Day theme, "Water and sustainable development", coincides with the ongoing discussions in the United Nations of the post-2015 development agenda and the adoption of a set of new sustainable development goals and targets expected later this year. I am pleased to see that this agenda, still under discussion, already recognizes the importance of water in proposed Goal 6 ("Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all"). It is particularly notable that its target 6.6 ("by 2020 protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes") recognizes the role of ecosystems in achieving the goal. This target builds on discussions held under the Convention on Biological Diversity leading up to the adoption in 2010 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and, in particular, the incorporation of water into Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 (By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable). The role of ecosystems in underpinning water was also clearly recognized in the outcomes of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)...

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USAID [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases>

No new digest content identified.

DFID [to 21 March 2015]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/latest?departments%5B%5D=department-for-international-development>

[Oxford University and UK Government to lead research to improve global water supply](#)

Published 20 March 2015 Press release DFID

[DFID policy on conflicts of interest and gifts and hospitality](#)

Published 20 March 2015 Guidance DFID

[UK aid in 2015: The progress so far and the priorities ahead](#)

Published 20 March 2015 Speech DFID

[UK emergency supplies for cyclone victims arrive in Vanuatu](#)

Published 19 March 2015 Press release DFID and MOD

[UK and Premier League use football to tackle violence against women and girls in Africa](#)

Published 16 March 2015 Press release DFID

ECHO [to 21 March 2015]

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/news>

[EU funds emergency communication services in Vanuatu](#)

19/03/2015

Dozens of islands across Vanuatu remain totally cut off from the rest of the world following the landfall of super cyclone Pam over the weekend. The European Commission is therefore stepping forward to ensure emergency support to restore...

[A winding road towards a strong Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction 2015-2030](#)

18/03/2015

The road to Sendai turned out to be somewhat winding as negotiations on a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction came to an end late in the evening on the fifth and last day of the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. The newly...

[#Road2Sendai: Increasing resilience reduces vulnerability to disasters](#)

16/03/2015

The EU is committed to building resilience to natural disasters. Increased resilience is a pre-requisite for reduced humanitarian needs, poverty alleviation and sustainable development. The European Commission has released a new publication: *EU Resilience Compendium – Saving lives and livelihoods*

.....

African Union [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.au.int/en/>

Mar.20.2015 [AUC and the Ethiopian Government Agree to Co-Organise the e-Learning Africa Conference in May 2015](#)

Mar.20.2015 [Celebration of the International Day of Forests \(IDF\), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia](#)

Mar.18.2015 [The African Union strongly condemns the heinous terrorist attack in Tunisia](#)

Mar.18.2015 [The Republic Niger to Host the First African Girls' Summit on Ending Child Marriage in Africa](#)

Mar.17.2015 [AUC hosts the first task force Meeting on the Pan African Virtual University](#)

The African Development Bank Group [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/>

[La Banque africaine de développement présente ses condoléances à la Tunisie et réitère sa détermination à soutenir le pays](#)

20/03/2015 - La Banque africaine de développement (BAD) présente ses condoléances à la Tunisie et exprime sa solidarité avec son peuple, son gouvernement et toutes les composantes de la société, pour le terrible attentat qui a frappé le pays, le mercredi 18 mars.

ASEAN [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.asean.org/news>

[ASEAN Moves Sectoral MRA on Good Manufacturing Practices Forward](#)

JAKARTA, 18 March 2015 - Healthcare, which includes the pharmaceutical sector, is one of 12 priority sectors for ASEAN economic integration. In line with this, an ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Inspection for Manufacturers of Medicinal Products had been identified as a priority initiative. Thus, an ASEAN MRA Taskforce on GMP Inspection was formed in 2005 to work towards the signing of a pan-ASEAN MRA on GMP Inspection, in tandem with the creation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015.

UNCTAD [to 21 March 2015]

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/AllPressRelease.aspx>

No new digest content identified.

World Trade Organisation [to 21 March 2015]

http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news_e.htm

[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]

19 March 2015

[Azevêdo underscores WTO commitment to trade programme for poorest countries](#)

Director-General Roberto Azevêdo, in closing the Enhanced Integrated Framework's (EIF) 'Global Platform' meeting at the WTO on 19 March 2015, said that "we can take pride in the fact that the EIF is becoming more flexible, more efficient, more effective and more adaptable, to the specific needs of the least developed countries". He urged participants to "continue working together to ensure that the second phase of the EIF is the major success story that we all want to see".

OECD [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/>

[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]

[Low oil prices and monetary easing triggering modest acceleration of global recovery](#)

18 March 2015

Low oil prices and monetary easing are boosting growth in the world's major economies, but the near-term pace of expansion remains modest, with abnormally low inflation and interest rates pointing to risks of financial instability, according to the OECD's latest Interim Economic Assessment.

IMF [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.imf.org/external/news/default.aspx>

[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]

[IMF Co-Hosts Conference on Financial Inclusion in Central Africa](#)

Press Release No. 115

March 16, 2015

The Central Bank of Central African States and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will co-host a conference on March 23, 2015 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, to examine the prospects and policy options for promoting financial inclusion in Central Africa.

The Conference [Finance for All: Promoting Financial Inclusion in Central Africa](#) will aim to discuss the impact of financial inclusion on growth and poverty reduction. Access to financial services can play a critical role in reducing inequality and supporting inclusive growth. However, only about half of the world's population has access to financial services, and that access is unequally spread across regions, countries, income levels and gender. In most of Central Africa, access is comparatively low.

The event will bring together more than 200 participants from government, academia, civil society and banking. It will focus on the policy challenges facing the countries of the Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS) as they seek to increasing access to financial services for all while managing policy challenges and supervisory risks...

World Bank [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/all>

[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]

[World Bank Statement on Bardo Museum Attack in Tunisia](#)

TUNIS, March 19, 2015—World Bank Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer Sri Mulyani Indrawati issued the following statement today: "On behalf of the World Bank Group I would like to express my deepest condolences to the families of those who lost their lives and to the people and government of Tunisia. I am deeply saddened by the horrific attacks that occurred at the historical Bardo museum in Tunis. As an example of a successful democratic transition, Tunisia stands as a beacon for the region. Since 2011, Tunisians have passed hurdle after hurdle and proved their deepest commitment to transform their country in a peaceful way. This attack, which occurred during my visit to Tunisia, will only strengthen our resolve to stand by the Tunisian people and support the government in creating shared and equitable growth."...

Date: March 19, 2015

[The Renewable Electricity Grid: The Future Is Now](#)

These approaches include strengthening interconnections between areas, diversifying the contribution of different renewable energy sources from various locations, and building up complementary generation and demand response technologies. The report builds upon previous reports on the topic published by the World Bank and other international organizations, by focusing on the important role that natural gas and energy storage can play in integrating variable renewable energy sources. With their fast start-up times, natural gas-fired power generation technologies have an edge over other conventional generation options such as nuclear or coal in that they can ramp up and down quickly, providing power as needed to balance variations in wind and solar inputs. Likewise, energy storage options have the potential to address most of the challenging aspects of integration...

Date: March 18, 2015

[Improving Living Conditions for Marginalized Roma](#)

This handbook is the latest addition to a growing library of knowledge and is designed to help prepare and implement effective interventions for improving the living conditions of disadvantaged Roma at the local level. By focusing on the integration of interventions in the

four areas of housing, employment, education, and health care, this handbook reinforces the idea that a collective approach to engagement can be more effective than a sector-by-sector silo approach." Poverty and exclusion among Roma present a number of multi-faceted challenges," notes Kosuke Anan, Senior Social Development Specialist at the World Bank and author of the Handbook, "interventions in a diverse number of areas, from health to education to employment, are all necessary to help improve the living conditions of Roma. But what we find is that coordination among these programs can significantly increase their effectiveness..."
Date: March 18, 2015

[World Bank Boosts Fisheries in Mauritania and Guinea, Contributing to the Ebola Recovery](#)
WASHINGTON, March 16, 2015 – The World Bank Group's (WBG) Board of Executive Directors today approved a total of US\$22 million to strengthen the management and governance of fisheries as well as improve the handling of fish that is brought to shore in Mauritania and Guinea. Today's project that focuses on these two countries is a component of the ongoing West Africa Regional Fisheries Program (WARFP), a nine-country, multi-phase series of projects approved by the World Bank in 2009 to ensure the productivity of West African water's wealth of fish resources is maintained at its best level. The other countries under implementation included in the program are Cabo-Verde, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Senegal, and Sierra Leone. "Fisheries are a key contributor to food security, nutrition and job creation for Guinea and Mauritania, who are among the poorest and most vulnerable in the world. Fish and fish products accounts for an average of 17.9% of animal protein..."
Date: March 16, 2015

[World Bank Group Statement On Cyclone Pam](#)
SYDNEY, March 15 2015 – We are deeply concerned for the people of Vanuatu in the face of the devastation caused by Cyclone Pam. We are waiting for official casualty reports and stand ready to help. The World Bank's disaster risk management (DRM) team is monitoring the situation closely. The priority at this stage will be for the humanitarian and relief agencies to provide emergency assistance. "Our hearts go out to the people of Vanuatu in the wake of the devastation from Cyclone Pam. Vanuatu is ranked as one of the world's most at-risk countries to natural disasters because of its vulnerability and exposure to cyclones," said World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim. "Cyclone Pam is a devastating reminder of the risks of disasters and we will be working closely with the Government to provide any necessary support. "The World Bank Group is now looking at every possible avenue and working with partners to support the people of Vanuatu..."
Date: March 15, 2015

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:: *NGO/Collaborations/Initiatives Watch*

We will monitor media releases and other announcements around key initiatives, new research and major organizational change from a growing number of global NGOs, collaborations, and initiatives across the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is intended to be indicative, not exhaustive. We will not include fund raising announcement, programs or appeals.

Amref Health Africa [to 21 March 2015]

<http://amref.org/news/news/>

[Water shortage and Trachoma - A double burden for women and children in Samburu](#)

Published: 20 March 2015

Every morning before sunrise, women and children in Kenya's Samburu County embark on an arduous journey, one that takes them miles away from their homes in search of water. By then, the men and...

[Let's integrate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene into public health interventions for sustainability, says Amref Health Africa](#)

Published: 20 March 2015 Marie Kinyanjui

International World Water Day 2015 The 2015 World Water Day comes at a time when the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are being assessed and the international community is defining new Sustainable...

[Walking together – Pairing tradition and modernity to improve maternal health care](#)

Published: 18 March 2015 Marie Kinyanjui

A study carried out in pastoral communities in Kenya shows that maternal health outcomes can be improved by encouraging traditional birth attendants (TBAs) to work with skilled health workers. The two-year study, a collaboration...

[Using Movies to Train Health Workers](#)

Published: 18 March 2015

Amref Health Africa launches new partnership with Medical Aid Films Amref Health Africa and Medical Aid Films are delighted to announce an exciting new partnership to deliver essential training for nurses and midwives in...

Aravind Eye Care System [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.aravind.org/currentnews1/CurrentNews.aspx>

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.brac.net/content/stay-informed-news#.VPstwC5nBhV>

No new digest content identified.

CARE International [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases.aspx>

[CARE Deeply Concerned About Cyclone Pam's Impact on Remote Islands](#)

VANUATU

18 MARCH 2015

Urgent CARE packages of food and water will soon be on their way to communities devastated by Cyclone Pam on Tanna Island, in Vanuatu's south.

Danish Refugee Council [to 21 March 2015]

<http://drc.dk/news/archive/>

No new digest content identified.

Casa Alianza [to 21 March 2015]
Covenant House [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.casa-alianza.org.uk/news>
<https://www.covenanthouse.org/>
No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.ecpat.net/news>
No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.fountainhouse.org/about/news-press>
No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 21 March 2015]
http://www.handicap-international.us/press_releases
No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.heifer.org/about-heifer/press/press-releases.html>
No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.helpage.org/newsroom/press-room/press-releases/>
No new digest content identified.

International Rescue Committee [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.rescue.org/press-release-index>
[The IRC statement on confirmed case of Ebola in Liberia's capital](#)
March 20, 2015 by The IRC

NEW YORK—Confirmation today of a new case of Ebola in Monrovia – the first in 17 days – re-emphasizes the need for strict infection prevention control at all health clinics and hospitals in Liberia. Health care workers at Redemption Hospital's emergency ward, managed by the International Rescue Committee, had the infection prevention and control resources they needed to respond to this case in a way that minimized the risk of infection. Such protection measures must be in place across the board.

The Montserrado Consortium, led by the IRC, has deployed contact tracers and case investigators to contact and monitor all of those who have come in contact with this patient so

as to do everything they can to ensure that this remains an isolated case, without further risk of transmission

[Quoted: U.S. must do more to ease Syrians' suffering](#)

March 20, 2015 by The IRC

"In the face of a dismaying political stalemate on the big questions of war and peace, there is every reason to use one of the few tools to ease the suffering of Syrians that is wholly within the power of the West. It is well past time for the United States and other Western countries to commit to a dramatic boost in the resettlement of Syrian refugees. Resettlement will not end the war, but it can rescue some of the most vulnerable victims of the fighting — the raped and tortured, at-risk women and children, those with acute medical needs."

- [David Miliband](#), the International Rescue Committee's president, in a March 19 opinion piece in The Washington Post: [U.S. should boost resettlement of Syria refugees](#). Miliband recommends three essential steps the United States refugee resettlement program should take to help the most vulnerable Syrians...

ICRC - International Committee of the Red Cross [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/index.jsp>

[Ending Ebola requires continued resources and "the right words"](#)

News release

20 March 2015

The Ebola epidemic in West Africa, which has affected thousands of people and left deep scars on whole communities and countries, was confirmed one year ago. The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement says complacency and silence are now the greatest enemies in defeating the disease, and today it is launching an international awareness-raising campaign centred on using "the right words" to help end the disease.

[Pakistan: Proper handling of the dead eases the suffering of the bereaved](#)

News release

19 March 2015

Peshawar (ICRC) – Handling the dead with respect and dignity was the theme of a five-day course run by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which drew to a close today in Peshawar. The event was an opportunity to share best practices and highlight the importance of accurate identification.

[Central African Republic: Hundreds of families torn apart by conflict](#)

News release

18 March 2015

Hundreds of people in the Central African Republic have no news of their loved ones following the conflict and other armed violence in the country. The ICRC, working closely with the Central African Red Cross Society, is pursuing its efforts to help these people trace and contact their relatives.

[Nepal: Humanitarian law handbook ready for launch](#)

News release

16 March 2015

Kathmandu (ICRC) – A handbook for parliamentarians and other civilian authorities will be presented at a ceremony in Kathmandu tomorrow. It is written in both Nepali and English.

IRCT [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.irct.org/>

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news-stories/press/press-releases>

Selected Press Releases/Field News

Press release

[Fighting to Get New TB Treatments to Those in Need](#)

March 20, 2015

endTB will provide access to new anti-TB drugs for more than 3,000 people and run clinical trials to identify safer and more effective treatments.

Press release

[Multi-drug Resistant TB Strain in Swaziland Not Detectable by Most Advanced Rapid Diagnostic Tests](#)

March 19, 2015

Doctors Without Borders and research center in Borstel, Germany, publish findings in New England Journal of Medicine.

Press release

[Syria: MSF-Supported Hospital Treats Victims of Chlorine Gas Attack](#)

March 18, 2015

PARIS/NEW YORK, MARCH 18, 2015—A chlorine attack in northwestern Syria on March 16 killed six people and poisoned a further 70, according to reports by Syrian doctors in the region in contact with the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

Mercy Corps [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.mercycorps.org/press-room/releases>

No new digest content identified.

Operation Smile [to 21 March 2015]

http://www.operationsmile.org/news_events/media-room/

Upcoming Mission Schedule [Home page]

Mar 15 - 20 | Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Mar 16 - 27 | Jimma, Ethiopia

Mar 16 - 20 | Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Mar 18 - 21 | Cusco, Peru

Mar 20 - 21 | Caracas, Venezuela

Mar 21 - 29 | Lubumbashi, DRC

Mar 23 - 27 | Hanoi, Vietnam
Mar 27 - Apr 4 | Dakhla, Morocco
Apr 5 - 11 | Taganrog, Russia
Apr 6 - 10 | Hanoi, Vietnam
Apr 8 - 18 | Cape Coast, Ghana

OXFAM [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases>

[Aid to begin reaching Vanuatu's devastated outer islands today as food shortages loom](#)

18 March 2015

Aid should today begin to reach the hard hit southern Vanuatu islands of Tanna and Erromango, which both took the full force of the 250kmh Cyclone Pam, after rapid assessments of the islands showed absolute devastation with entire villages destroyed...

Partners In Health [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.pih.org/blog>

Mar 20, 2015

[Malawi Floods: Update from Joe Lusaka](#)

I decided to move to Chikwawa in order to alleviate the disease burden unleashed by the floods, and to bring us closer to making real the human right to health care.

Mar 18, 2015

[Haiti's University Hospital Celebrates Second Anniversary](#)

Now celebrating its two-year anniversary, University Hospital in Mirebalais is a boon for the region and the country following the January 12, 2010 earthquake ▶

Mar 18, 2015

[Four PIH Clinicians Returned to United States for Monitoring](#)

At the request of the CDC, four clinicians working with PIH in Sierra Leone were transported to the United States on Tuesday for active monitoring. None have shown symptoms of Ebola.

Mar 17, 2015

[Dr. Paul Farmer: 'Redoubling Our Efforts'](#)

[T]he everyday health conditions faced by the poor across much of West Africa are nothing if not a disaster. Redoubling our efforts in Sierra Leone and Liberia, while supporting the Guinean effort as we are able, should be the next step for PIH and its partners.

Mar 16, 2015

[Dr. Gary Gottlieb Joins PIH](#)

Dr. Gary L. Gottlieb is the new CEO of Partners In Health...

PATH [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.path.org/news/index.php>

Press release | March 20, 2015

[PATH names Mark Murray vice president for Global Engagement and Communications](#)

Murray to serve on executive leadership team and lead PATH's public engagement strategy

Plan International [to 21 March 2015]

<http://plan-international.org/about-plan/resources/media-centre>

20/03/2015

[Sierra Leone Ebola lockdown welcomed by Plan International](#)

19/03/2015

[Amid Vanuatu tragedy, don't forget children and their families](#)

18/03/2015

[Children find a better place in post-2015 disaster framework](#)

Save The Children [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.6150563/k.D0E9/Newsroom.htm>

[At Least 2,000 Children on Remote Islands in Vanuatu At Risk of Potentially Deadly Waterborne Diseases Like Diarrhea, Warns Save the Children](#)

March 19, 2015

[Nearly 45,000 Children Cannot Go To School in Cyclone Damaged Vanuatu](#)

March 17, 2015

[Save the Children Aid Reaches Families in Cyclone Devastated Vanuatu](#)

March 16, 2015

[YouthSave Report Offers New Insights into How and Why Young People in Developing Countries Save Money](#)

March 16, 2015

[Up to 75,000 children without adequate access to food, water and shelter in cyclone devastated Vanuatu](#)

March 15, 2015

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/about-sos/press/press-releases>

20 March 2015

[Syria's 'lost generation' of children now suffering year 5 of war](#)

As the brutal conflict in Syria enters its fifth year, over 12.2 million people there need life-saving humanitarian assistance. Almost half of them are children who now face a fifth year of being denied their rights to safety, education, health care and protection.

"Amid the horror and despair of a fifth year of conflict in Syria, it is children and young people who are suffering most. They are being killed and injured, tortured, displaced, and deprived of their right to safety, education and a future. Many have lost parental care. Large numbers have no care at all," said SOS Children's Villages International CEO, Richard Pichler.

He added: "UNICEF has assessed that more than five-and-a-half million children are

currently in need of humanitarian assistance in Syria. There are almost two million refugee children outside the country. It is no exaggeration to speak of a 'lost generation'. SOS Children's Villages and other organisations are acting, but what will it take for this shameful suffering to end?"

SOS Children's Villages' first Emergency Response Programme in Syria provided support for more than 88,500 children – most of them Internally Displaced Persons – between 2013 and 2014...

Tostan [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.tostan.org/latest-news>

No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.womenforwomen.org/press-releases>

No new digest content identified.

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ChildFund Alliance [to 21 March 2015]

<http://childfundalliance.org/>

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.dec.org.uk/press>

[Action Aid, Age International, British Red Cross, CAFOD, Care International, Christian Aid, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief, Oxfam, Plan UK, Save the Children, Tearfund and World Vision]

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.elrha.org/news/elrha>

[Syria Evaluation Portal for Coordinated Accountability and Lesson Learning](#)

Published on 19/03/2015

Maintained by the ALNAP secretariat, in cooperation with the Coordinated Accountability and Lessons Learning (CALL) Initiative, the aim of this portal is to optimise collective learning around the Syria crisis in order to improve international emergency response.

This portal aims to provide a single platform, bringing together a wide range of information, data, discussion and analysis. This will be of interest to those involved in operations, policy and learning and evaluation.

The portal will be of particular interest to those involved in evaluation and learning and will provide up-to-date information about ongoing and planned evaluations, as well as other learning activities. The aim of this is to promote and share learning in order to enhance a common understanding across organisations and sectors. Sharing key information will also

enhance the harmonisation of evaluation activities. The intention is that this will become a repository of data that can be used for reflection and lesson learning.

Organisations involved in operations, policy or learning related to the Syrian crisis are invited to submit documents which may help achieve these aims. For more information, please [click here](#).

END Fund [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.end.org/news>

No new digest content identified.

GAVI [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.gavialliance.org/library/news/press-releases/>

[Children in Bangladesh to benefit from dual vaccine introduction](#)

More than three million children to be protected against polio and the leading cause of pneumonia (joint press release Gavi, UNICEF, WHO, GPEI)

Geneva/Dhaka, 20 March 2015 – Two new life-saving vaccines are being introduced tomorrow into Bangladesh's national immunisation programme thanks to support from Gavi, UNICEF, WHO and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners.

More than three million children will benefit from pneumococcal vaccine (PCV), which protects against one of the leading causes of pneumonia, and the Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) as part of the Polio Eradication & Endgame Strategic Plan 2013-2018.

"Pneumonia is one of the leading causes of child mortality in Bangladesh, accounting for 22 %1 of deaths of children under the age of five so the introduction of pneumococcal vaccine will have a major positive impact on child survival," said Dr Seth Berkley, CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

Globally, pneumococcal disease takes the lives of half a million children under the age of five each year, the vast majority of whom live in developing countries.

"We strongly believe that introduction of PCV and IPV in the national immunisation schedule will have a major impact on the reduction of under-five mortality and morbidities. Given the commitment and determination shown by the Government and partners, UNICEF is confident that this momentous effort will make a significant and sustained contribution to child survival in Bangladesh through ensuring equitable access to all children," said Edouard Beigbeder, UNICEF Representative, Bangladesh...

Global Fund [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/mediacenter/newsreleases/>

20 March 2015

[Honduras Aims for Malaria Elimination](#)

Hilton Prize Laureates Collaborative [to 21 March 2015]

<http://hiltonprizelaureatescollaborative.net/>

No new digest content identified.

ODI [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.odi.org/media>

Research Reports and Studies

[Ghana, the rising star: progress in political voice, health and education](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

[Amanda Lenhardt](#), [Alina Rocha Menocal](#) and [Jakob Engel](#)

Ghana has achieved remarkable progress in human development over the past 20 years while undergoing one of the most successful transitions to multi-party democracy in sub-Saharan Africa. This paper explores the factors that have contributed to progress in both the provision of basic services (notably in health and education) and greater political voice for citizens.

[Service characteristics and engagement with citizens](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

[Richard Batley](#) and [Joseph Wales](#)

Despite significant progress in a range of public services over the past two decades, in many developing countries the average citizen continues to suffer from gaps in provision and poor performance of even the most basic services. This briefing note aims to provide some practical guidance on how different services can offer differing opportunities and challenges for improving service performance through increased accountability and, especially, citizen engagement.

[Patterns of progress on the MDGs and implications for target setting post-2015](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

[Laura Rodriguez Takeuchi](#) and [Emma Samman](#), with [Liesbet Steer](#)

A range of analysis shows that progress towards development goals is rarely linear. This paper seeks to examine the true patterns of progress on the MDGs, exploring seven indicators – one representing each of the first seven MDGs. The resulting analysis asks how targets can be set in a non-linear world with countries at different stages of development, with a view towards target setting post-2015 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

[Intra-household inequalities in child rights and wellbeing: a barrier to progress?](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

[Laura Rodriguez Takeuchi](#)

This paper attempts to measure the extent of inequality between boys and girls within households and its contribution to overall levels of inequality in child wellbeing. It proposes a new methodology to measure inequality among boys and girls within households, attempting to correct the lack of analysis of the distribution of inequality within households.

[Security progress in post-conflict contexts: between liberal peacebuilding and elite interests](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

[Craig Valters](#), [Erwin Van Veen](#) and [Lisa Denney](#)

This report synthesises findings from two country case studies on how security improvements have been achieved in the challenging post-conflict contexts of Liberia and Timor-Leste. It also draws on wider literatures on liberal peacebuilding and the role of elites, which have polarised debates over how countries achieve peace.

[The surprising fall in oil prices since mid-2014. What does it mean for food and agriculture?](#)

Food price updates, March 2015

Steve Wiggins and Sharada Keats

ODI's Food Price Updates focus on tracking international prices of key staple cereals maize, rice, and wheat, and provide commentary on events in markets that affect these prices. They also follow international food and commodity price indices. This update focuses on the effect of falling in oil prices on food prices and food security.

[Unlocking the triple dividend of resilience - why investing in DRM pays off](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

Thomas Tanner and Jun Rentschler

This paper finds that investing in disaster risk management (DRM) yields real benefits in both the short and long term, enabling forward-looking planning, long-term capital investments, and entrepreneurship. DRM investments generate co-benefits in addition to avoided loss and damage, when a disaster strikes.

[Manufacturing progress? Employment creation in Sri Lanka](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

Bruce Byiers, Florian Krätke, Priyanka Jayawardena, Laura Rodríguez Takeuchi and Anushka Wijesinha

This study, written in collaboration with ECDPM, aims to explain the employment progress achieved in Sri Lanka from 1990 to 2010. This period has seen a drastic reduction in unemployment, and improved working conditions, particularly for women, accompanied by structural transformation away from agriculture towards manufacturing and services. The drivers of employment progress in quality, quantity and access are examined in terms of policies affecting demand for and supply of labour.

[Work in progress: productive employment and transformation in Uganda](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

Bruce Byiers, Laura Rodríguez Takeuchi and Anna Rosengren with Dr Moses Muhwezi, Dickson Turyareeba, Joyce Abaliwano, Bernard Wabukala and Ramathan Ggoobi

Since the 1990s Uganda, a small, landlocked country, has experienced the initial phases of economic transformation, accompanied by important employment progress. The country has seen a significant expansion in the share of wage employment, particularly during the 2000s, with private, non-agricultural wage employment experiencing one of the fastest growth rates in Africa. Overall labour productivity has more than doubled from 1990 to 2010. This study, written in collaboration with ECDPM, aims to explain this progress.

[Working for economic transformation](#)

Research reports and studies, March 2015

Bruce Byiers, Tom Berliner, Francesca Guadagno and Laura Rodríguez Takeuchi

A key challenge for developing countries is to generate more and better job opportunities for all parts of the population. What does this mean in practice, in the context of economic structural transformation?

The Sphere Project [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.sphereproject.org/news/>

[New resource: Sphere for Monitoring and Evaluation](#)

19 March 2015 | Sphere Project

The Sphere Project office has published Sphere for Monitoring and Evaluation, a short guide to help humanitarian staff identify and implement the sections of the Sphere Handbook that are most relevant to these tasks...

Start Network [to 21 March 2015]

http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U_O7FR98E

[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]

[Launch of the Shifting the Power project in Nairobi, 16 March 2015](#)

March 17, 2015

Posted by Tegan Rogers

Where does power lie in the humanitarian system? What barriers need to be overcome for local organisations to play a leading role in decision-making and responding to crises?

The Shifting the Power project brings together 6 leading humanitarian agencies to work in 5 disaster-prone countries to strengthen the capacity of local organisations to determine and deliver humanitarian preparedness and response...

Muslim Charities Forum [to 21 March 2015]

<https://www.muslimcharitiesforum.org.uk/media/news>

[An umbrella organisation for Muslim-led international NGOs based in the UK. It was set up in 2007 and works to support its members through advocacy, training and research, by bringing charities together. Our members have a collective income of £150,000,000 and work in 71 countries.]

No new digest content identified.

.....

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.alnap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

Humanitarian Practice Network (HPN) [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.odihpn.org/the-humanitarian-space/news/announcements>

No new digest content identified.

People In Aid [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.peopleinaid.org/>

[New case study: Progress in HR has led to increased staff commitment and improved programme delivery for a small NGO in Uganda](#)

This case study looks at how small improvements in HR practices and policies at Dwelling Places, a small NGO in Uganda, have led to increased staff motivation and ultimately better services for communities in Uganda.

(18 March 2015)

[Humanitarian Leadership in Australia - developing skills to transform humanitarian response](#)

By Jonathan Potter

I haven't been in many meetings which mentioned both humanitarian leaders and kangaroos. While in Melbourne last week I listened to a presentation from Deakin University's Humanitarian Leadership Programme (HLP). Now offering an accredited graduate certificate, part on-line with two intensive 8-day courses in Australia and Indonesia, more than 220 students have graduated in four years (from 39 organisations and 49 countries).
(17 March 2015)

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 21 March 2015]

<https://phap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

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:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch

We will primarily monitor media releases announcing key initiatives and new research from a growing number of global foundations and donors engaged in the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative.

BMGF (Gates Foundation) [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases>

MARCH 18, 2015

[New Chief Digital Officer Joins Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#)

SEATTLE, WA, USA (March 19, 2015) – The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation today announced that Todd Pierce will join the organization in the newly created role of Chief Digital Officer. He comes to the foundation from salesforce.com where he served as Senior Vice President of the Healthcare and Life Sciences industry. Prior to salesforce.com, Pierce was Chief Information Officer at Genentech and for the County of Santa Clara, California, and held technology leadership roles at Roche and Veteran's Affairs. Additionally, he has held key positions on multiple non-profit and foundation boards.

Clinton Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

<https://www.clintonfoundation.org/press-releases-and-statements>

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.fordfoundation.org/newsroom>

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.hewlett.org/newsroom/search>

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/news>

No new digest content identified.

Kellogg Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.wkkf.org/news-and-media#pp=10&p=1&f1=news>

[Statement of Support: Maintenance of Native languages and cultures is essential for the well-being of children and communities](#)

W.K. Kellogg Foundation President and CEO La June Montgomery Tabron issues statement on the Office of Head Start's Information Memorandum

March 17, 2015

BATTLE CREEK, Mich. – Today, the federal Office of Head Start (OHS) reaffirmed its commitment to “the full integration of tribal language and culture into every aspect of the Head Start and Early Head Start program model.” At the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), we fully support full implementation by all sectors toward the maintenance of Native languages and cultures, and consider it to be essential in sustaining the identity and values essential for the well-being of Native children and communities...

MacArthur Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.macfound.org/>

No new digest content identified....

Open Society Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

[http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/termsearch/8175/listing?f\[0\]=type%3Anews](http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/termsearch/8175/listing?f[0]=type%3Anews)

[Guatemala Should Seek Renewal of UN-backed Anti-Impunity Commission](#)

March 19, 2015News

The International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala is an “indispensable partner” in the battle against organized criminality and corruption, according to a new assessment from the Open Society Justice Initiative.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 21 March 2015]

<http://www.packard.org/news/>

[New Initiatives Ensure Children are Healthy and Ready for Kindergarten](#)

March 18, 2015

The Children, Families, and Communities program at the David and Lucile Packard Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of two new initiatives to ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential...

Rockefeller Foundation [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/newsroom>
No new digest content identified.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/news-releases.html>
[The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Sports Award](#)
March 18, 2015 Feature
[A New Decade Begins](#)

For the past decade, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has presented the Steve Patterson Award for Excellence in Sports Philanthropy. Building on the Patterson Award, RWJF's new Sports Award will place a greater emphasis on collaboration across communities and sectors to build a Culture of Health, the Foundation's core vision.

[Apps to Use When Shopping for Health Insurance Win National Competition](#)
User-friendly tools help consumers pick the best health plan.
March 19, 2015

Princeton, N.J.—The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has named Washington, D.C.-based Consumers' CHECKBOOK as the winner of its first 'Plan Choice Challenge,' a nationwide competition facilitated by Health 2.0 to design a technology application that helps people evaluate their health insurance options.

[Stride Health](#) (San Francisco, Calif.) and [Clear Health Analytics](#) (Stamford, Conn.) took second and third place, respectively. All three winning apps compare health insurance plans in consumer-friendly terms. Each narrows plans by cost-sharing features and help consumers calculate any projected tax credits.

Skoll Foundation [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.skollfoundation.org/latest-news/>
No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 21 March 2015]
<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/News/2015/index.htm>
[Wellcome Trust comment on Guardian fossil fuels campaign](#)
16 March 2015

Today The Guardian announced a petition urging the Wellcome Trust and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to divest from fossil fuels. Below follows a statement from the Wellcome Trust:

Environmental change, including climate change, is one of the greatest contemporary challenges facing our society, and we have made understanding the connections between environment, nutrition and health one of our five key research challenges. This is a highly complex issue which we take seriously in our decisions and on which we engage with policy-makers, researchers and the businesses in which we invest.

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:: Journal Watch

The Sentinel will track key peer-reviewed journals which address a broad range of interests in human rights, humanitarian response, health and development. It is not intended to be exhaustive. We will add to those monitored below as we encounter relevant content and upon recommendation from readers. We selectively provide full text of abstracts and other content but note that successful access to some of the articles and other content may require subscription or other access arrangement unique to the publisher. Please suggest additional journals you feel warrant coverage.

American Journal of Disaster Medicine

Vol. 9, No. 3–Summer 2014

<http://www.pnpco.com/pn03000.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Infection Control

March 2015 Volume 43, Issue 3, p199-312

<http://www.ajicjournal.org/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

March 2015 Volume 48, Issue 3, p241-364, e1-e4

<http://www.ajpmonline.org/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 105, Issue 3 (March 2015)

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

March 2015; 92 (3)

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/content>

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

[No new relevant content]

BMC Infectious Diseases

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content>

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

[No new relevant content]

BMC Medical Ethics

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmedethics/content>

[No new relevant content]

BMC Public Health

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpublichealth/content>

Research article

[Impact of socioeconomic status and medical conditions on health and healthcare utilization among ageing Ghanaians](#)

Bashiru II Saeed^{12*}, Zhao Xicang¹, Alfred Edwin Yawson³, Samuel Blay Nguah⁴ and Nicholas NN Nsowah-Nuamah⁵

Author Affiliations

BMC Public Health 2015, 15:276 doi:10.1186/s12889-015-1603-y

Published: 20 March 2015

Abstract (provisional)

Background

This study attempts to examine the impact of socioeconomic and medical conditions in health and healthcare utilization among older adults in Ghana. Five separate models with varying input variables were estimated for each response variable.

Methods

Data (Wave 1 data) were drawn from the World Health Organization Global Ageing and Adult Health (SAGE) conducted during 2007–2008 and included a total of 4770 respondents aged 50+ and 803 aged 18–49 in Ghana. Ordered logits was estimated for self-rated health, and binary logits for functional limitation and healthcare utilization.

Results

Our results show that the study provides enough grounds for further research on the interplay between socioeconomic and medical conditions on one hand and the health of the aged on the other. Controlling for socioeconomic status substantially contributes significantly to utilization. Also, aged women experience worse health than men, as shown by functioning assessment, self-rated health, chronic conditions and functional limitations. Women have higher rates of healthcare utilization, as shown by significantly higher rates of hospitalization and outpatient encounters.

Conclusion

Expansion of the national health insurance scheme to cover the entire older population- for those in both formal and informal employments- is likely to garner increased access and improved health states for the older population.

BMC Research Notes

(Accessed 21 March 2015)
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresnotes/content>
[No new relevant content]

British Medical Journal

21 March 2015(vol 350, issue 8000)
<http://www.bmj.com/content/350/8000>
[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Brown Journal of World Affairs

Volume XXI Issue 1 Fall–Winter 2014
<http://brown.edu/initiatives/journal-world-affairs/>
[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 93, Number 3, March 2015, 133-208
<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/93/3/en/>
[Reviewed earlier]

Complexity

March/April 2015 Volume 20, Issue 4 Pages C1–C1, 1–80
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cplx.v20.4/issuetoc>
[No new relevant content identified]

Conflict and Health

[Accessed 21 March 2015]
<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>
[No new relevant content]

Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

(Accessed 21 March 2015)
<http://www.resource-allocation.com/>
[No new relevant content]

Developing World Bioethics

April 2015 Volume 15, Issue 1 Pages ii–iii, 1–57
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2015.15.issue-1/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 25, Issue 2, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 10, Number 2 (March 2015)

<http://informahealthcare.com/toc/idt/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 9 - Issue 01 - February 2015

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=DMP&tab=currentissue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

April 2015 Volume 39, Issue 2 Pages 185–405

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2015.39.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

March 2015, Volume 32, Issue 3

<http://emj.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 11, *In Progress* (June 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/17554365>

[Reviewed earlier]

End of Life Journal

Summer 2014 Vol 4 Issue 2

<http://endoflifejournal.stchristophers.org.uk/current-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 25, Issue 1, 01 February 2015

http://eurpub.oxfordjournals.org/content/25/suppl_1

Theme: Unwarranted variations in health care performance across Europe: Lessons from the ECHO Project

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 52, In Progress (April 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03069192>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 7, Issue 1, February 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/7/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 42, Issue 1, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Genocide Studies International

Volume 9, Number 1 /2015

<http://utpjournals.metapress.com/content/h3k3l734429m/?p=19a75d15156f4f52825de2a49ee054d1&pi=0>

Issue Focus: The Ottoman Genocides of Armenians, Assyrians, and Greeks

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

March 2015 | Volume 3 | Issue 1

<http://www.ghspjournal.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health Governance

[Accessed 21 March 2015]

<http://blogs.shu.edu/ghg/category/complete-issues/summer-2013/>

[No new relevant content]

Global Public Health

Volume 10, Issue 4, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rgph20/current#.VPudJy5nBhU>

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

[Accessed 21 March 2015]

<http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/>

Review

Health in the sustainable development goals: ready for a paradigm shift?

Kent Buse¹ and Sarah Hawkes^{2*}

Author Affiliations

Globalization and Health 2015, 11:13 doi:10.1186/s12992-015-0098-8

Published: 21 March 2015

Abstract (provisional)

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) galvanized attention, resources and accountability on a small number of health concerns of low- and middle-income countries with unprecedented results. The international community is presently developing a set of Sustainable Development Goals as the successor framework to the MDGs. This review examines the evidence base for the current health-related proposals in relation to disease burden and the technical and political feasibility of interventions to achieve the targets. In contrast to the MDGs, the proposed health agenda aspires to be universally applicable to all countries and is appropriately broad in encompassing both communicable and non-communicable diseases as well as emerging burdens from, among other things, road traffic accidents and pollution. We argue that success in realizing the agenda requires a paradigm shift in the way we address global health to surmount five challenges: 1) ensuring leadership for intersectoral coherence and coordination on the structural (including social, economic, political and legal) drivers of health; 2) shifting the focus from treatment to prevention through locally-led, politically-smart approaches to a far broader agenda; 3) identifying effective means to tackle the commercial determinants of ill-health; 4) further integrating rights-based approaches; and 5) enhancing civic engagement and ensuring accountability. We are concerned that neither the international community nor the global health community truly appreciates the extent of the shift required to implement this health agenda which is a critical determinant of sustainable development.

Research

Tracking development assistance for health to fragile states: 2005–2011

Casey M Graves, Annie Haakenstad and Joseph L Dieleman*

Author Affiliations

Globalization and Health 2015, 11:12 doi:10.1186/s12992-015-0097-9

Published: 19 March 2015

Abstract (provisional)

Background

Development assistance for health (DAH) has grown substantially, totaling more than \$31.3 billion in 2013. However, the degree that countries with high concentrations of armed conflict, ethnic violence, inequality, debt, and corruption have received this health aid and how that assistance might be different from the funding provided to other countries has not been assessed.

Methods

We combine DAH estimates and a multidimensional fragile states index for 2005 through 2011. We disaggregate and compare total DAH disbursed for fragile states versus stable states.

Results

Between 2005 and 2011, DAH per person in fragile countries increased at an annualized rate of 5.4%. In 2011 DAH to fragile countries totaled \$6.2 billion, which is \$5.05 per person. This is 43% of total DAH that is traced to a country. Comparing low-income countries, funding channeled to fragile countries was \$7.22 per person while stable countries received \$11.15 per person. Relative to stable countries, donors preferred to provide more funding to low-income fragile countries that have refugees or ongoing external intervention but tended to avoid

providing funding to countries with political gridlock, flawed elections, or economic decline. In 2011, Ethiopia received the most health aid of all fragile countries, while the United States provided the most funds to fragile countries.

Conclusions

In 2011, 1.2 billion people lived in fragile countries. DAH can bolster health systems and might be especially valuable in providing long-term stability in fragile environments. While external health funding to these countries has increased since 2005, it is, in per person terms, almost half as much as the DAH provided to stable countries of comparable income levels.

Health Affairs

March 2015; Volume 34, Issue 3

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 16, Issue 2 December 2014

<http://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-16-issue-2/>

Papers in Press: Special Issue on Health Rights Litigation

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 10 - Issue 02 - April 2015

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=HEP&tab=currentissue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 30 Issue 2 March 2015

<http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>

[Accessed 21 March 2015]

[Reviewed earlier]

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 37, Number 1, February 2015

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/toc/hrq.37.1.html

[Reviewed earlier]

Human Service Organizations Management, Leadership & Governance

Volume 39, Issue 1, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wasw21/current#.VOAi4i5nBhV>

[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

ISSUE 63 January 2015

<http://www.odihpn.org/humanitarian-exchange-magazine/issue-63>

The Typhoon Haiyan response

[Reviewed earlier]

IDRiM Journal

Vol 4, No 2 (2014)

<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim/issue/view/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

[Accessed 21 March 2015]

<http://www.idpjournal.com/content>

[No new relevant content]

International Health

Volume 7 Issue 2 March 2015

<http://inthehealth.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

Special issue: Digital methods in epidemiology

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Resilience in the Built Environment

Volume 6 Issue 1

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijdrbe/6/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 11, Pages 1-78 (March 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/11>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

April 2015 Volume 33, p1

<http://www.ijidonline.com/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Mass Emergencies & Disasters

November 2014 (VOL. 32, NO. 3)

<http://www.ijmed.org/issues/32/3/>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 22, Issue 2, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tsdw20/current#.VIORRslLDg2>

Special Issue: Sustainable management and protection of ecosystems with high conservation values in Shangri-La County, Yunnan Province, China

International Migration Review

Winter 2014 Volume 48, Issue 4 Pages 921–1110

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2014.48.issue-4/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Intervention – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas

March 2015 - Volume 13 - Issue 1 pp: 1-102

<http://journals.lww.com/interventionjnl/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

New Frontiers issue of Intervention

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

March 17, 2015, Vol 313, No. 11

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

Viewpoint | March 17, 2015

[Law, Ethics, and Public Health in the Vaccination Debates - Politics of the Measles Outbreak](#) FREE

Lawrence O. Gostin, JD1

[+] Author Affiliations

JAMA. 2015;313(11):1099-1100. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.1518.

[Concluding text]

A TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

Parental decisions to opt out of immunizations can have a rational basis. Unvaccinated children avoid rare adverse effects, such as a serious allergic reaction. Moreover, if most children in the community in which they live are immunized, the unvaccinated child also benefits from herd immunity. The dilemma is that if a sufficient number of parents act in their own interests by opting out of having their children immunized, then everyone is worse off.

Parents objecting to vaccines often claim the right to informed consent, which is an important medicolegal value. However, consent should not override the rights of others to live safely in their communities. Unvaccinated children put the wider public at risk, violating a basic ethical principle of not imposing harms on others. If an individual's right ends at the point that its exercise jeopardizes the safety of others, then should states allow parents to opt out? Certainly,

states should continue to grant medical exemptions for children particularly susceptible to vaccine adverse effects. However, states do not have to grant philosophical and religious exemptions. The main consideration is whether eliminating exemptions could inflame public opinion, thus undermining vaccine policy.

States would be unwise to overreact to the current measles outbreak by fining or imprisoning parents, or subjecting them to tort litigation, if they fail to vaccinate their children. Harsh penalties could fuel public opposition to vaccine policy. It may not even be necessary to entirely eliminate nonmedical exemptions. The wiser course could be to require a rigorous process for claiming the exemption, relying on behavioral economics to encourage compliance. There are good models of tougher standards, including requiring counseling; explaining the benefits of vaccines; requiring parents to sign an affidavit stating the reasons for opting out; and requiring health department approval. Placing a higher burden on the exemption process would make it more difficult for parents to impose risks on their children's friends and schoolmates without their agreement.

If exemptions were truly rare, as they should be, then herd immunity would operate. Everyone would be safer. The current system of generous opt outs virtually ensures that infectious disease outbreaks will continue, perhaps increasing in frequency and geographic scope. Childhood diseases that were once common but now rare could gain a foothold, becoming endemic once again.

Research Letter | March 17, 2015

[Reporting of Noninferiority Trials in ClinicalTrials.gov and Corresponding Publications](#)

Anand D. Gopal, BS, BA1; Nihar R. Desai, MD2; Tony Tse, PhD3; Joseph S. Ross, MD, MHS2
[+] Author Affiliations

JAMA. 2015;313(11):1163-1165. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.1697.

Noninferiority clinical trials are designed to determine whether an intervention is not inferior to a comparator by more than a prespecified difference, known as the noninferiority margin. Selection of an appropriate margin is fundamental to noninferiority trial validity, yet a point of frequent ambiguity.^{1,2} Given the increasing use of noninferiority trial designs, maintaining high standards for conduct and reporting is a priority.^{3,4} Publicly accessible trial registries and results databases promote transparency and accountability by requiring specification of research designs and end points and disclosure of summary results.^{1,5}

JAMA Pediatrics

March 2015, Vol 169, No. 3

<http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Online First

Research Letter| March 16, 2015

[Substandard Vaccination Compliance and the 2015 Measles Outbreak](#) ONLINE FIRST

Maimuna S. Majumder, MPH1,2; Emily L. Cohn, MPH2; Sumiko R. Mekaru, DVM, PhD2; Jane E. Huston, MPH2; John S. Brownstein, PhD2,3

Author Affiliations

JAMA Pediatr. Published online March 16, 2015. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2015.0384

The ongoing measles outbreak linked to the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California, shines a glaring spotlight on our nation's growing antivaccination movement and the prevalence of vaccination-hesitant parents. Although the index case has not yet been identified, the outbreak

likely started sometime between December 17 and 20, 2014.^{1,2} Rapid growth of cases across the United States indicates that a substantial percentage of the exposed population may be susceptible to infection due to lack of, or incomplete, vaccination. Herein, we attempt to analyze existing, publicly available outbreak data to assess the potential role of suboptimal vaccination coverage in the population.

...Discussion

This preliminary analysis indicates that substandard vaccination compliance is likely to blame for the 2015 measles outbreak. Our study estimates that MMR vaccination rates among the exposed population in which secondary cases have occurred might be as low as 50% and likely no higher than 86%. Given the highly contagious nature of measles, vaccination rates of 96% to 99% are necessary to preserve herd immunity and prevent future outbreaks.³ Even the highest estimated vaccination rates from our model fall well below this threshold. While data on MMR vaccination rates are available, coverage is often calculated at the state or county level and may not be granular enough to assess risk in an outbreak situation; this is especially the case for outbreaks originating at a tourist destination, where vaccination coverage among visitors is highly heterogeneous. Clearly, MMR vaccination rates in many of the communities that have been affected by this outbreak fall below the necessary threshold to sustain herd immunity, thus placing the greater population at risk as well.

Journal of Community Health

Volume 40, Issue 2, April 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10900/40/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 114, *In Progress* (May 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/114>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

April 2015, Volume 69, Issue 4

<http://jech.bmj.com/content/current>

[New issue; No relevant content]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 10, Issue 3, 2014

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/.U2V-Elf4L0l#.VAJEj2N4WF8>

Tenth Anniversary Forum: The Future of Global Ethics

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Infectious Diseases (JGID)

January-March 2015 Volume 7 | Issue 1 Page Nos. 1-50

<http://www.jgid.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU)

Volume 26, Number 1, February 2015

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_health_care_for_the_poor_and_underserved/toc/hpu.26.1.html

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 4 Issue 2

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/4/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 17, Issue 1, February 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10903/17/1/page/1>

Special Focus: Food, Diet, and Nutrition

- 39 articles covering these themes in different ethnic and national contexts

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 13, Issue 1, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current#.VQS0KOFnBhW>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 211 Issue 5 March 1, 2015

<http://jid.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

March 2015 Volume 27, Issue 2 Pages 155–312

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v27.2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics

Winter 2014 Volume 42, Issue 4 Pages 408–602

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jlme.2014.42.issue-4/issuetoc>

Special Issue: SYMPOSIUM: The Buying and Selling of Health Care

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

March 2015, Volume 41, Issue 3

<http://jme.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 4 Issue 1 March 2015

<http://jpids.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 36, Issue 1 (February 2015)

<http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jphp/journal/v36/n1/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

06 April 2015; volume 12, issue 105

<http://rsif.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Knowledge Management for Development Journal

Vol 10, No 3 (2014)

<http://journal.km4dev.org/journal/index.php/km4dj/index>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Mar 21, 2015 Volume 385 Number 9973 p1045-1150 e23-e24

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>

[New issue; No relevant content]

The Lancet Global Health

Apr 2015 Volume 3 Number 4 e178-e239

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/issue/current>

Comment

[Think big, World Bank: time for a public health safeguard](#)

[Richard Seifman](#), [Sarah Kornblet](#), [Claire Standley](#), [Erin Sorrell](#), [Julie Fischer](#), [Rebecca Katz](#)

Published Online: 09 February 2015

Summary

Sometimes great changes result from small actions. Technical advances might grab headlines, but changes to administrative processes can potentially have an equally important effect on how public health actions are carried out on the ground. In the past six decades, the World Bank's increasingly diverse portfolio has grown to include more than US\$1 billion in annual

commitments for health, nutrition, and population activities—about a quarter of all its projects.¹ That is why it is so essential that the global community pays attention to the discussion and any proposed decisions about safeguards against any unintended social and environmental effects of World Bank policies and investments.

Comment

[A call for international accountability—preserving hope amid false protection](#)

Agnes Binagwaho, Corine Karema

Published Online: 23 February 2015

Summary

Today's struggle to control the Ebola outbreak in west Africa is a reminder that trust within health systems is absolutely crucial to fight disease—not only locally, but also globally. We describe Rwanda's experience with a breakdown of communication, accountability, and trust that threatened the great strides in malaria control made over the past decade.

Articles

[Association between breastfeeding and intelligence, educational attainment, and income at 30 years of age: a prospective birth cohort study from Brazil](#)

Cesar G Victora, Bernardo Lessa Horta, Christian Loret de Mola, Luciana Quevedo, Ricardo Tavares Pinheiro, Denise P Gigante, Helen Gonçalves, Fernando C Barros

[The consequences of tobacco tax on household health and finances in rich and poor smokers in China: an extended cost-effectiveness analysis](#)

Stéphane Verguet, Cindy L Gauvreau, Sujata Mishra, Mary MacLennan, Shane M Murphy, Elizabeth D Brouwer, Rachel A Nugent, Kun Zhao, Prabhat Jha, Dean T Jamison

[Effect of a comprehensive programme to provide universal access to care for sputum-smear-positive multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in China: a before-and-after study](#)

Renzhong Li, Yunzhou Ruan, Qiang Sun, Xiexiu Wang, Mingting Chen, Hui Zhang, Yanlin Zhao, Jin Zhao, Cheng Chen, Caihong Xu, Wei Su, Yu Pang, Jun Cheng, Junying Chi, Qian Wang, Yunting Fu, Shitong Huan, Lixia Wang, Yu Wang, Daniel P Chin

[Geographical and socioeconomic inequalities in women and children's nutritional status in Pakistan in 2011: an analysis of data from a nationally representative survey](#)

Mariachiara Di Cesare, Zaid Bhatti, Sajid B Soofi, Lea Fortunato, Majid Ezzati, Zulfiqar A Bhutta

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

Mar 2015 Volume 15 Number 3 p249-360

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 19, Issue 4, April 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/19/4/page/1>

[Reducing Child Mortality: The Contribution of Ceará State, Northeast of Brazil, on Achieving the Millennium Development Goal 4 in Brazil](#)

Anamaria Cavalcante e Silva, Luciano Lima Correia...

[Explaining Inequity in the Use of Institutional Delivery Services in Selected Countries](#)

Mai Do, Rieza Soelaeman, David R. Hotchkiss

Influenza Vaccination of Pregnant Women: Attitudes and Behaviors of Oregon Physician Prenatal Care Providers

Robert F. Arao, Kenneth D. Rosenberg, Shannon McWeeney, Katrina Hedberg

Abstract

In spite of increased risk of influenza complications during pregnancy, only half of US pregnant women get influenza vaccination. We surveyed physician prenatal care providers in Oregon to assess their knowledge and behaviors regarding vaccination of pregnant women. From September through November 2011, a state-wide survey was mailed to a simple random sample ($n = 1,114$) of Oregon obstetricians and family physicians. The response rate was 44.5 %. Of 496 survey respondents, 187 (37.7 %) had provided prenatal care within the last 12 months. Of these, 88.5 % reported that they routinely recommended influenza vaccine to healthy pregnant patients. No significant differences in vaccine recommendation were found by specialty, practice location, number of providers in their practice, physician gender or years in practice. In multivariable regression analysis, routinely recommending influenza vaccine was significantly associated with younger physician age [adjusted odds ratio (AOR) 2.01, 95 % confidence interval (CI) 1.29–3.13] and greater number of pregnant patients seen per week (AOR 1.95, 95 % CI 1.25–3.06). Among rural physicians, fewer obstetricians (90.3 %) than family physicians (98.5 %) had vaccine-appropriate storage units ($p = 0.001$). Most physician prenatal care providers understand the importance of influenza vaccination during pregnancy. To increase influenza vaccine coverage among pregnant women, it will be necessary to identify and address patient barriers to receiving influenza vaccination during pregnancy.

Healthy Start: Description of a Safety Net for Perinatal Support During Disaster Recovery

Gloria Giarratano, Emily W. Harville, Veronica Barcelona de Mendoza, Jane Savage, Charlotte M. Parent

Abstract

Publicly funded programs and safety net organizations have key roles during post disaster recovery to care for vulnerable populations, including pregnant women with low resources. The objective of this study was to compare the health of prenatal women who accessed the New Orleans Healthy Start program to those women who only used traditional prenatal care (PNC) during long-term recovery from the Hurricane Katrina disaster. During 2010–2012, this descriptive, cross-sectional study recruited 402 prenatal women (24–40 weeks) from prenatal clinics and classes. All women were enrolled in PNC, with 282 experiencing only traditional PNC, while 120 women added Healthy Start participation to their usual PNC. Measures were obtained to determine, past hurricane experience, hurricane recovery, perceptions of prenatal care, mental health, and birth outcomes. Women accessing Healthy Start-New Orleans were more socially “at risk” (younger, lower income, not living with a partner, African American), lived through more hurricane trauma, and had a higher incidence of depression (40 %) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) (15 %) than women in traditional PNC (29 % depression; 6.1 % PTSD). Women using Healthy Start reported more mental health counseling and prenatal education than did women in only traditional PNC. Birth outcomes were similar in the two groups. The Healthy Start participants with less resources and more mental health difficulties after disaster, represented a more vulnerable population in need of additional support. This study underscores the necessity for community and governmental programs to develop disaster response plans that address needs of vulnerable populations during prolonged recovery.

Factors Associated with Safe Delivery Service Utilization Among Women in Sheka Zone, Southwest Ethiopia

Abyot Asres, Gail Davey

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

March 2015 Volume 93, Issue 1 Pages 1–222

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1468-0009/currentissue](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1468-0009/currentissue)

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 519 Number 7543 pp261–382 19 March 2015

http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html

World View

Share the risks of Ebola vaccine development

Ebola vaccines have little in the way of commercial markets, so the risks should be shared between governments and industry, says Seth Berkley.

18 March 2015

There are hundreds of infectious diseases out there that people could catch. More than 300 such conditions were discovered in the second half of the twentieth century alone. And how many of these diseases can scientists and clinicians protect against with a licenced vaccine? Fewer than 30.

Those are not always the biggest killers, or the most terrifying. Vaccine development is driven not by the risk that a pathogen poses to people, but by the economic pay-off. Given the difficulty of the science involved, how much money will it take to develop the vaccine? And given the size of the market, how much money can we make by selling it?

That helps to explain why, more than a year on from the first confirmed cases of the ongoing Ebola outbreak in West Africa, no vaccine is available, even though work started towards one more than a decade ago. Phase III trials for two vaccines have now been launched in Liberia and Guinea, and we have great hope for them, assuming that there are still enough cases developing to test the vaccines for efficacy. But for the more than 10,000 people who have lost their lives, and countless others who have suffered and will continue to suffer, these trials have come too late.

Our inability to protect people against Ebola is part of what makes the disease so frightening. In most cases, it is not what a disease is capable of that scares us, but that we can do so little about it.

But why is this the case for Ebola? We have known about the disease since 1976, and the first vaccine candidate was developed more than a decade ago. Ebola is not hypervariable like influenza or HIV, constantly changing and finding new ways to evade our immune systems, so we have had ample time to develop a vaccine or effective treatment during any one of the previous 23 outbreaks. Why were we caught by surprise this time?

The short answer is that we were not, but that the development of a vaccine was considered too financially risky. With a disease such as Ebola, which kills ferociously but occurs sporadically and usually in remote areas, there is simply no commercial market. Who would buy it? Outbreaks usually involve only a couple of hundred cases and occur every few years in poor rural communities in Africa. This leaves little in the way of incentives for manufacturers to invest the hundreds of millions of dollars it takes to develop a vaccine and get it clinically approved.

"We need to stop waiting until we see evidence of a disease becoming a global threat before we treat it like one."

It is childish to blame the drug industry for failing to develop an Ebola vaccine — a product with no market. Instead, governments, public funders and private donors should be stepping up and investing.

We must work on a strategy that allows meaningful quantities of proven vaccines to be quickly produced and distributed when an outbreak occurs — of Ebola or other infectious diseases.

A first step is to identify the biggest threats, and that demands better disease surveillance. More and better-equipped laboratories, as well as trained epidemiologists, in developing countries would improve our ability to quickly detect and investigate outbreaks of commonly occurring diseases, as well new threats.

The vast amount of data produced by this kind of surveillance network would have an added bonus. With the right smart data-mining algorithms, the information could be used to radically increase our understanding of how pathogens travel and mutate, and then how our immune systems respond to these changes.

When an outbreak occurs and vaccines are needed, it would help significantly to have vectors ready to deliver them. With the right investment, these vectors, typically a harmless virus or bacterium, could be prepared and tested in advance. Crucially, they could be pressed into service to tackle a range of diseases. Four of the five Ebola vaccines currently going through clinical trials use vectors developed and tested for HIV.

Such generic vectors would, in effect, modularize the vaccine development process — conducting much of the safety testing and ironing out manufacturing processes for different vectors ready for the addition of a 'payload' antigen. By developing such mechanisms in advance, and pre-testing them for safety and dose, we can save significant amounts of money and time by having stockpiles frozen and ready for use or efficacy testing as soon as an outbreak occurs.

This is similar to the way in which technology developed using public funds through NASA has reduced the cost of placing scientific probes, telescopes and satellites into space. Same rocket, different payload.

It demands a different attitude to disease control. We need to stop waiting until we see evidence of a disease becoming a global threat before we treat it like one. Vaccine development is expensive, but the United States currently spends at least US\$11 billion a year to keep fleets

of nuclear-armed submarines patrolling the oceans to protect people from a threat that will almost certainly never happen. That is 60 times more than the World Health Organization puts into global disease preparedness.

Governments and donors need to invest in public-health capability, and they need to take on more of the risk of investing in vaccine development. We must view vaccines as the ultimate deterrent: make sure they are there, and pray that we never have to use them.

Comment

Agriculture: Increase water harvesting in Africa

Meeting global food needs requires strategies for storing rainwater and retaining soil moisture to bridge dry spells, urge Johan Rockström and Malin Falkenmark.

New England Journal of Medicine

March 19, 2015 Vol. 372 No. 12

<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

Perspective

Having and Fighting Ebola — Public Health Lessons from a Clinician Turned Patient

Craig Spencer, M.D., M.P.H.

N Engl J Med 2015; 372:1089-1091 March 19, 2015 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp1501355

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

February 2015; 44 (1)

<http://nvs.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration

Volume 4, No. 2 December 2014

<http://oxmofm.com/current-issue/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

March 2015, VOLUME 135 / ISSUE 3

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/current.shtml>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

[Accessed 21 March 2015]

<http://currents.plos.org/disasters/>

[No new relevant content]

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

<http://currents.plos.org/outbreaks/>

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

[No new relevant content]

PLoS Medicine

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

<http://www.plosmedicine.org/>

[No new relevant content]

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://www.plosntds.org/>

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

Viewpoints

Neglected Tropical Disease Control and Elimination: Is Human Displacement an Achilles Heel?

Kaylee Myhre Errecaborde, William Stauffer, Martin Cetron

Published: March 19, 2015

DOI: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0003535

[Initial text]

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) has estimated that over 40 million people [1] are currently displaced and have variable access to health care in the country in which they reside. Populations displaced by conflict are largely disenfranchised, and high prevalence of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) has been documented [2]. NTDs generally affect the least advantaged people in poor societies—populations with little voice or representation. These already susceptible people become even more vulnerable when forced from their communities as internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, or forced migrants. To further complicate matters, many of these people of concern are under 18 years old. Children experience the greatest risk and suffer the most consequences of NTDs. As marginalized populations flee from conflict or environmental catastrophe, they are often burdened with insidious NTDs ranging from asymptomatic to overt and debilitating disease. Many suffer from chronic consequences such as malnutrition, growth stunting and developmental delays, inhibiting chances for sustainable livelihoods and making it less likely that they will successfully overcome the adversity of displacement.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has defined 17 key neglected diseases, but several others exist [3]. These diseases are highlighted in Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 6, which aims to combat HIV/AIDS and “other diseases,” of which the NTDs are discussed at length [4,5]. It is the intent of these authors to raise the awareness of readers, and argue that inclusion of these displaced populations in preventive chemotherapy (PCT) programs and multi-model community-based interventions is not only necessary for sustained success of NTD control but is also a moral imperative...

PLoS One

[Accessed 21 March 2015]

<http://www.plosone.org/>

Research Article

Mechanisms of Immunity in Post-Exposure Vaccination against Ebola Virus Infection

Steven B. Bradfute, Scott M. Anthony, Kelly S. Stuthman, Natarajan Ayithan, Prafullakumar Tailor, Carl I. Shaia, Mike Bray, Keiko Ozato, Sina Bavari

Published: March 18, 2015

DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0118434

Abstract

Ebolaviruses can cause severe hemorrhagic fever that is characterized by rapid viral replication, coagulopathy, inflammation, and high lethality rates. Although there is no clinically proven vaccine or treatment for Ebola virus infection, a virus-like particle (VLP) vaccine is effective in mice, guinea pigs, and non-human primates when given pre-infection. In this work, we report that VLPs protect Ebola virus-infected mice when given 24 hours post-infection. Analysis of cytokine expression in serum revealed a decrease in pro-inflammatory cytokine and chemokine levels in mice given VLPs post-exposure compared to infected, untreated mice. Using knockout mice, we show that VLP-mediated post-exposure protection requires perforin, B cells, macrophages, conventional dendritic cells (cDCs), and either CD4+ or CD8+ T cells. Protection was Ebola virus-specific, as marburgvirus VLPs did not protect Ebola virus-infected mice. Increased antibody production in VLP-treated mice correlated with protection, and macrophages were required for this increased production. However, NK cells, IFN-gamma, and TNF-alpha were not required for post-exposure-mediated protection. These data suggest that a non-replicating Ebola virus vaccine can provide post-exposure protection and that the mechanisms of immune protection in this setting require both increased antibody production and generation of cytotoxic T cells.

PLoS Pathogens

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

[No new relevant content]

PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

(Accessed 21 March 2015)

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/>

Global trends in antimicrobial use in food animals

Thomas P. Van Boeckela, ¹, Charles Brower^b, Marius Gilbert^{c,d}, Bryan T. Grenfell^{e,f}, Simon A. Levina^{g,h,1}, Timothy P. Robinsonⁱ, Aude Teillant^e, and Ramanan Laxminarayan^{b,e,j,1}

Author Affiliations

Contributed by Simon A. Levin, February 18, 2015 (sent for review November 21, 2014; reviewed by Delia Grace and Lance B. Price)

Significance

Antimicrobials are used in livestock production to maintain health and productivity. These practices contribute to the spread of drug-resistant pathogens in both livestock and humans, posing a significant public health threat. We present the first global map (228 countries) of antibiotic consumption in livestock and conservatively estimate the total consumption in 2010 at 63,151 tons. We project that antimicrobial consumption will rise by 67% by 2030, and nearly double in Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. This rise is likely to be driven by the growth in consumer demand for livestock products in middle-income countries and a shift to

large-scale farms where antimicrobials are used routinely. Our findings call for initiatives to preserve antibiotic effectiveness while simultaneously ensuring food security in low- and lower-middle-income countries.

Abstract

Demand for animal protein for human consumption is rising globally at an unprecedented rate. Modern animal production practices are associated with regular use of antimicrobials, potentially increasing selection pressure on bacteria to become resistant. Despite the significant potential consequences for antimicrobial resistance, there has been no quantitative measurement of global antimicrobial consumption by livestock. We address this gap by using Bayesian statistical models combining maps of livestock densities, economic projections of demand for meat products, and current estimates of antimicrobial consumption in high-income countries to map antimicrobial use in food animals for 2010 and 2030. We estimate that the global average annual consumption of antimicrobials per kilogram of animal produced was 45 mg·kg⁻¹, 148 mg·kg⁻¹, and 172 mg·kg⁻¹ for cattle, chicken, and pigs, respectively. Starting from this baseline, we estimate that between 2010 and 2030, the global consumption of antimicrobials will increase by 67%, from 63,151 ± 1,560 tons to 105,596 ± 3,605 tons. Up to a third of the increase in consumption in livestock between 2010 and 2030 is imputable to shifting production practices in middle-income countries where extensive farming systems will be replaced by large-scale intensive farming operations that routinely use antimicrobials in subtherapeutic doses. For Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, the increase in antimicrobial consumption will be 99%, up to seven times the projected population growth in this group of countries. Better understanding of the consequences of the uninhibited growth in veterinary antimicrobial consumption is needed to assess its potential effects on animal and human health.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 30 - Issue 01 - February 2015

<https://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=PDM&tab=currentissue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 7 Issue 3 November 2014

<http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

Special Symposium on Dual Loyalties: Health Providers Working for the State

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

April 2015; 25 (4)

<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>

Special Issue: Perceptions of Caregivers

[Reviewed earlier]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 34 Issue 1 March 2015

<http://rsq.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

Special Issue: The Role of International Organizations and Human Rights Monitoring Bodies in Refugee Protection

[Reviewed earlier]

Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses

Volume 3, Issue 1, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/resi20/current#.VOkz6y5nBhW>

[Reviewed earlier]

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)

December 2014 Vol. 36, No. 6

http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=151&Itemid=266&lang=en

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Analysis

February 2015 Volume 35, Issue 2 Pages 179–344

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2015.35.issue-2/issuetoc>

Current Topics

[The Role of Risk Analysis in Understanding Ebola](#)

Charles N. Haas*

Article first published online: 19 MAR 2015

DOI: 10.1111/risa.12361

[No abstract]

Original Research Article

[Risk Management for Development—Assessing Obstacles and Prioritizing Action](#)

Stéphane Hallegatte^{1,*} and Jun Rentschler^{1,2}

Article first published online: 25 AUG 2014

DOI: 10.1111/risa.12269

Abstract

Throughout the process of economic and social development, decisionmakers from the household to the state level are confronted with a multitude of risks: from health and employment risks, to financial and political crises, as well as environmental damages and from the local to global level. The World Bank's 2014 World Development Report (WDR) provides an in-depth analysis of how the management of such risks can be improved. In particular, it argues that a proactive and integrated approach to risk management can create opportunities for fighting poverty and achieving prosperity—but also acknowledges substantial obstacles to its implementation in practice. This article presents and discusses these obstacles with respect to their causes, consequences, interlinkages, and solutions. In particular, these include obstacles to individual risk management, the obstacles that are beyond the control of individuals and thus require collective action, and, finally, the obstacles that affect the ability of governments and public authorities to manage risks. From these obstacles, this article derives a policy roadmap for the development of risk management strategies that are designed not only around the risk they have to cope with, but also around the practical obstacles to policy implementation.

Quantifying Flood Risks in the Netherlands (pages 252–264)

R. B. Jongejan and B. Maaskant

Article first published online: 6 JAN 2015 | DOI: 10.1111/risa.12285

Abstract

Risk Perceptions and Trust Following the 2010 and 2011 Icelandic Volcanic Ash Crises (pages 332–343)

J. Richard Eiser, Amy Donovan and R. Stephen J. Sparks

Article first published online: 26 SEP 2014 | DOI: 10.1111/risa.12275

Abstract

Science

20 March 2015 vol 347, issue 6228, pages 1285-1388

<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

In Depth

Infectious Diseases

MERS surges again, but pandemic jitters ease

Kai Kupferschmidt

The number of infections of the deadly Middle East respiratory syndrome virus surges again in Saudi Arabia, but scientists are less worried that the virus will cause a pandemic than they were 3 years ago. Still, many details about the virus discovered in 2012 and harbored by camels are unclear. New research suggests that many more people than previously thought may have been infected with no or little symptoms. The best way to protect people may be a camel vaccine, and experiments to test two candidate vaccines in camels have just been finished in the United States and Europe.

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 131, *In Progress* (April 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/131>

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

[accessed 21 March 2015]

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 7, Issue 2 (February 2015), Pages 1099-2273

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/7/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

TORTURE Journal

Volume 24, Nr. 1, 2014

<http://www.irct.org/torture-journal>

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine and Health

Vol. 43(2015) No. 1

https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/tmh/43/0/_contents

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

March 2015 Volume 20, Issue 3 Pages 251–406

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2014.20.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LI No. 3 2014 December 2014

<http://unchronicle.un.org/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 10, Issue 1, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rvch20/current#.Uzg2bFcWNdc>

[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

n°74 - January 2015

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/74/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Yale Human Rights & Development Law Journal

Volume XIV, Issue 2

<http://www.law.yale.edu/academics/YHRDLJcurrentissue.htm>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Additional Content from Google Scholar and Other Sources [to 21 March 2015]

Addiction

Early View

Article first published online: 10 MAR 2015

Editorial

Why are we not doing more for alcohol use disorder among conflict-affected populations?

Bayard Roberts^{1,*} and Nadine Ezard^{2,3}

DOI: 10.1111/add.12869

Excerpt [Open Access]

Despite considerable risk of alcohol use disorder (AUD) among civilians affected by armed conflict, the humanitarian response and research on this issue are inadequate. There needs to be greater engagement with AUD among humanitarian, developmental, United Nations, governmental, donor and research agencies. There also needs to be more comprehensive guidance and tools on ways to address AUD.

There are currently more than 50 million people forcibly displaced from their homes as refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) due to armed conflict—the highest number since the Second World War. There are also many millions more who remain in areas affected by conflict or have recently returned to them after displacement. The vast majority are in low- and middle-income countries.

There are a number of reasons why we should be concerned about alcohol use disorder (AUD) among conflict-affected civilian populations in low- and middle-income countries. They are often exposed to high levels of violent and traumatic events which are strongly associated with mental disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression and anxiety [1]. Both exposure to traumatic events and these mental disorders are, in turn, associated with AUD [2-6]. Conflict and forced displacement of refugees and IDPs also lead commonly to worse living conditions and impoverishment; the loss of family, friends and livelihoods; and erosion of social support, self-esteem and resilience. Alcohol may be used as a form of self-medication or a coping strategy. Poor living conditions and limited access to health care further increase the disease burden per unit of alcohol consumed [7]. The post-conflict environment may also witness a scaling-up of alcohol promotion as new markets open up and national and transnational alcohol companies expand their activities [8, 9]...

Social Policy and Society

FirstView Article

Articles

How Effective Are Cash Transfers in Reducing Poverty, Compared to Remittances?

Jessica Hagen-Zanker^{a1} and Carmen Leon Himmelstine^{a2}

a1 Overseas Development Institute, London

a2 School of Global Studies, University of Sussex

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1474746415000019> (About DOI)

14 pages. Published online: 16 February 2015

Abstract

Using a rigorous, evidence-focused review method, this literature review found eleven relevant studies that directly compare the impacts of cash transfers and remittances on a range of indicators of poverty at the household level. The evidence base is small and highly context specific. The external and internal validity of most studies are limited, so the conclusions that can be drawn from this review are tentative. However, in the majority of studies both cash transfers and remittances are shown to have positive impacts on reducing poverty. Overall, remittances seem to have stronger poverty-reducing impacts. There are a number of factors that seem to explain why remittances have a greater effect. In the studies reviewed here, remittances appear to reach both a greater share of the overall population than cash transfers

and a greater share of poorer households. Furthermore, remittances were higher in value in the majority of studies reviewed. Further high-quality research is needed.

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics

Vol. 7 No. 1 (January 2015)

<https://www.aeaweb.org/articles.php?doi=10.1257/app.7.1>

Articles

[Six Randomized Evaluations of Microcredit: Introduction and Further Steps](#) (pp. 1-21)

Abhijit Banerjee, Dean Karlan and Jonathan Zinman

[Abstract/Tools](#) |

[The Miracle of Microfinance? Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation](#) (pp. 22-53)

Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Rachel Glennerster and Cynthia Kinnan

[Abstract/Tools](#) |

[The Impacts of Microcredit: Evidence from Ethiopia](#) (pp. 54-89)

Alessandro Tarozzi, Jaikishan Desai and Kristin Johnson

[Abstract/Tools](#) |

[The Impacts of Microfinance: Evidence from Joint-Liability Lending in Mongolia](#) (pp. 90-122)

Orazio Attanasio, Britta Augsburg, Ralph De Haas, Emla Fitzsimons and Heike Harmgart

[Abstract/Tools](#) |

[Estimating the Impact of Microcredit on Those Who Take It Up: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment in Morocco](#) (pp. 123-50)

Bruno Crépon, Florencia Devoto, Esther Duflo and William Parienté

[Abstract/Tools](#) |

[Microcredit Impacts: Evidence from a Randomized Microcredit Program Placement Experiment by Compartamos Banco](#) (pp. 151-82)

Manuela Angelucci, Dean Karlan and Jonathan Zinman

[Abstract/Tools](#) |

[The Impacts of Microcredit: Evidence from Bosnia and Herzegovina](#) (pp. 183-203)

Britta Augsburg, Ralph De Haas, Heike Harmgart and Costas Meghir

[Abstract/Tools](#) |

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